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DAILY DIGEST

prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXII, No. 1

Section 1

July 1, 1941.

PRICE CONTROL MEASURES DEBATED

A cautious prediction that rationing of consumers' goods might be employed along with "drastic" price control measures to prevent inflation was made yesterday by Leon Henderson and Donald M. Nelson, of OPA, as Congressmen voiced new opposition to price fixing by executive decree, says an AP report in the Washington Post, July 1. A score of Senators and Representatives, at a special meeting called by Chairman Smith of the Senate Agriculture Committee, adopted a resolution "that price fixing should be postponed until a definite policy has been authorized by Congress, and if and when price fixing is authorized, it shall also apply to processing costs and prices to the consumers."

HEMISPHERE UNITY URGED

Implementation of the good neighbor policy by adoption of measures which would establish it on a firm foundation of mutual good-will and economic well-being was urged yesterday at the meeting of the University of Virginia Institute of Public Affairs, says a report in the New York Times, July 1. Long-range government investments tending to improve the health of the masses in South and Central America; stimulation of private investments, preferably in partnership with nationals in these countries; general lowering of tariff barriers; and measures making for unification of currencies were means to that end suggested by Dr. Enrique S. de Lozada, former secretary of the Bolivian Legation in Washington and now professor of political science at Williams College.

AUSTRALIAN IMPORT BANS

A Melbourne wireless to the New York Times, July 1, says E. J. Harrison, Australian Minister of Customs, has announced further restrictions, effective immediately, on non-sterling imports totaling 1,250,000 pounds (Australian) annually. The rulings include a 25 percent reduction in rayon piece goods, a further 25 percent reduction in tinned salmon, making a total of 75 percent, and a further 50 percent in paper boards, making a total restriction. The overall import restriction now is 50 percent of the 1938-39 value.

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Electricity Use
For Farm Lights
Doubles, 1930-40

That the percentage of United States farms using electricity for lighting houses more than doubled in the 1930-40 decade is indicated by an analysis of 1940 Farm Census returns from 16 widely scattered States, it has been announced by the Census Bureau. The 16 States covered by the report had a total of 1,523,378 farms, or one-fourth of all the farms of the nation. Of these, 696,775 were lighted by electricity in 1940 as compared with 303,332 in 1930. (New York Journal of Commerce, July 1.)

Cork, Rubber
Plantings In
California

Cork trees from Spain and rubber bushes from Mexico are being cultivated in California Experiment Station nurseries, in efforts to replace supplies from abroad, says Science News Letter, June 21. In the autumn, 10,000 cork oak seedlings will be distributed free to persons showing that they can plant and care for 50 or more trees. Experimental plantings in the State indicate that the soil and climate in California are as suitable as those of Spain for cork production. The rubber bushes are the species known as guayule, native to northern Mexico, of which there are already successful plantations in southern California. The guayule bushes are being grown in a rubber company nursery.

L. M. Hutchins
Head Forest
Pathology

The Department has announced the appointment of Dr. Lee M. Hutchins to head the Division of Forest Pathology, BPI. Doctor Hutchins was in charge of research on virus diseases of tree fruits, working principally in the South and West. He succeeds the late Dr. Haven Metcalf. "Doctor Hutchins is a recognized authority on virus diseases of trees, not only nationally but internationally," said Dr. E. C. Auchter, bureau chief. "He will bring to the division, in a field where virus diseases are a major problem, recognized leadership as well as proven administrative ability."

Florida Tries
Specialty Crops

Pinch hitting for France, Italy, the Balkans, Japan, and other countries, Florida is trying its hand at growing some of the foreign specialty imports cut off by war, says Science News Letter, June 21. Crops which the Florida Experiment Station advises as worthy of trial plantings are French endive, formerly imported from France and Belgium; small tomatoes for tomato paste, from Italy; sage for seasoning, from Greece; paprika, from the Balkans; spinach seed, from Holland and Denmark; mustard and turnip seed, from Japan; and teasel burrs, from France. Teasel burrs, considered good for combing wool in American mills, are to be planted on the Experiment Station farm for trials.

Futures TradingIn '41 Fiscal Year

Sharp increases in the volume of trading in fats and oils, but marked declines in grains and cotton, were main trends in the agricultural futures markets during the 1941 fiscal year, the Department has reported. Trading in cottonseed oil and lard was at the highest level for which the CEA has records. The records go back to 1929. The greatest percentage increase for any commodity was in soybeans, with an estimated trading volume of 600,000,000 bushels in 1941, about five times the 1940 level.

Locker PlantsIncrease

Locker plants are spreading rapidly throughout the East, says Butchers Advocate, June 18. Meat dealers have found that the installation of lockers (averaging 300) attract permanent meat customers who buy in larger quantities to fill their lockers; yield a profit through processing charges which run between 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 cents a pound; and provide a new service which helps meet chain and "supermarket" competition.

Low-Cost MilkPlan ContinuedIn '42 Fiscal Year

Continuation through the fiscal year ending 1942 of programs under which approximately 500,000 needy persons receive their daily milk supply at low cost has been announced by the Department. The programs are in effect in the Boston, Mass., Chicago, Ill., Washington, D. C., New York, N. Y., New Orleans, La., and St. Louis, Mo., milk-marketing areas, and supplement Federal orders regulating milk handling in these markets.

PrioritiesFor LatinAmerica

Washington has worked out a complete system of priorities for the 20 Latin American nations, has made a survey of the needs of each country, and has supplied officials of OPM with tentative schedules of materials needed and quantities which should be delivered each month, says Business Week, June 21. The plan is the most significant indication to date that our defense production will be geared to the needs of the whole hemisphere.

Non-CrackingRubber Compound

A new rubber compound that virtually eliminates cracking of tread and sidewall rubber has been developed, says a report in Missouri Ruralist, June 7. The new, non-checking rubber will have many applications where present rubber compounds are unable to resist the disintegrating effects of ozone. Weather checking, or cracking, has been a major problem to farmers ever since they began to use pneumatic tires on tractors and farm implements.

Equine "Encephalo"
Virus Spreading

The eastern type of virus causing equine encephalomyelitis seems to be spreading westward, say two members of the Army Veterinary School, in Science, June 20: Sixty horses were recently reported as having died of suspected "encephalo" in the area southeast of Brownsville, Texas, bordering on the Gulf of Mexico. Laboratory examination at the Army Medical Center in Washington disclosed the cause to be the eastern type of virus. In the past, two distinct viruses have been recognized, eastern and western.

Colorado
Irrigation
Project

A public works project that has been overshadowed by Boulder Dam and Grand Coulee is the Grand Lake-Big Thompson irrigation and power project of the U.S. Reclamation Bureau in Colorado, that will bring to the northern Colorado irrigation district, east of the Continental Divide, an additional 310,000 acre-feet of water a year, says Business Week, June 21. A 13-mile tunnel, the main trunk of the project, will carry surplus water through the mountains from the western slope of the divide to farm lands and power projects on the western side. Power that is generated by the water going downhill will be used not only by farmers but also to run the pumps that lift the water on the western side. About a fourth of the job is finished and work is going forward rapidly.

H.P. Gould, BPI,
Retires After
Forty Years

Completing forty years of service in the Department, H. P. Gould retired July 1 as head of the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases of BPI. He will be succeeded by Dr. John R. Magness who has been a project leader in the division for several years.

"Mr. Gould began work for the bureau the day it started functioning," Doctor Auchter, BPI Chief, pointed out. "He has made many important contributions to our knowledge of fruit production in the United States. Other horticultural investigators in this country recognize him as an authority on fruit nomenclature and the adaptation of varieties for various regions of the country."

Colorado Farm
Act Upheld

Colorado's agricultural marketing act of 1939 was recently declared constitutional, the natural result of agricultural specialization, and has not resulted in the loss of a single sale by a Colorado grower, in an opinion by District Court Judge S. M. Logan, says Western Farm Life, June 1. A suit had been filed by a group of Western Slope peach growers who sought to have the act declared unconstitutional. Whether the suit will be carried to a higher court has not been announced.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 2.

Section 1

July 2, 1941.

HENDERSON SEES RISING COSTS OF LIVING

Price Administrator Henderson yesterday issued an unqualified forecast of rising costs of living and announced a broad program of allocating civilian supplies expected to affect the purchases of every American consumer, says a report in the Washington Post, July 2. At a special press conference, Henderson declared he was "very seriously concerned with the strong trend in the price level." Although he said the question of legislation was "up to the President," he spoke of the desirability of having price fixing laws with sanctions "directly applicable to individual violators." First steps in a program to allocate scarce supplies among competing civilian uses were announced yesterday by OPACS.

N.Y.C. GETS MILK, DESPITE DAIRY STRIKE

The larger milk distributors in the New York metropolitan area, the Health Department, and the Federal-State Milk Marketing Administrator reported yesterday that the city's supply had not been reduced by the strike called by the Dairy Farmers Union among its 23,000 members, but one spokesman warned that milk strikes usually gain momentum before "dying out." N. J. Cladakis, Marketing Administrator, said that of the 494 plants in the city milkshed, 42 had been affected. (New York Times, July 2.)

CHARGE CHEESE PRICE FIXING

An indictment accusing six corporations and nine individuals of conspiracy to fix the price of foreign-type cheeses in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law was returned yesterday before Federal Judge P. T. Stone at Madison, Wisconsin, says a report to the New York Times, July 2. Most of the cheese factories are local cooperative enterprises.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS PAY RAISE BILL

The Ramspeck-Mead promotion bill for Government employees advanced another step yesterday when it was reported out unanimously by the Senate Civil Service Committee. Subcommittee Chairman Mead said the report would be filed in the Senate Thursday and an effort made to bring the measure up for passage early next week. The bill provides for periodic pay raises, for those qualified by efficiency ratings, every 18 months at salaries less than \$3,800 and every 30 months over that figure and under \$9,000. (Washington Star, July 1.)

Frozen FruitPulp In Desserts

A new use for frozen fruit pulp is as filling for such foods as strawberry shortcake and as a mix for sundae toppings, D. G. Sorber, of the USDA Fruit and Vegetable Chemistry Laboratory at Los Angeles, said recently. Since fruit pulp does not look as inviting as sliced fresh fruit, the appearance of the crushed product is enhanced, he explained, by mixing it with generous quantities of fresh sliced fruit. The crushed product also is gaining favor as frozen dessert. For this purpose, he said, it is frozen rapidly, giving it the smoothness of ice cream and the flavor of fresh fruit. (Ice and Refrigeration, June.)

MechanicalRefrigerationFor Farmers

Studying farm families which bought new mechanical refrigerators in 1940, a report issued by the Division of Commercial Research of the Curtis Publishing Company shows they bought the higher-priced models, 73 percent paying \$135 or more. The average price was higher than that paid by people living in towns. Twenty-five percent bought the 7 cubic-foot or larger models, compared with 12 percent in cities and towns. Sixty-one percent of the farm purchases in 1940 were by families who had previously used ice, 8 percent by those who had used mechanical refrigeration, and 31 percent by those who had owned no refrigerator. (Ice and Refrigeration, June.)

Farm PricesUp 6 Points

Prices received by farmers for their products continued to advance during the month ended June 15, the Department reports. At 118 percent of the 1910-14 level, the index of all farm commodities was 6 points higher than in mid-May and 23 points higher than on June 15, 1940. The rise in prices was rather general, the advance since mid-May ranging from 2 to 11 points for the principal commodity groups.

War DisruptsEgypt's Farming

Spread of war to the Eastern Mediterranean is seriously affecting Egyptian agricultural economy. Unlike the situation in 1914-1918, however, Egyptian food supplies are ample and no drastic shifts in crop production have been found necessary to date. There is no rationing of foodstuffs, the only products so far rationed being kerosene and fertilizers. The Department report, Wartime Aspects of Egyptian Agricultural Economy, by N. William Hazen, FAR, appears in June Foreign Agriculture.

Consumers'Digest Ceases

The June issue of Consumers' Digest is the last one in its present form, says an editor's note. It will be merged with Consumers' Research Bulletin.

Pre-Cooling
For Potatoes

Potato growers in the Kearney, Nebraska, area will cooperate with Government agencies in experiments this coming season to determine whether pre-cooling the crop before it is shipped to market is worth while, says Ice and Refrigeration, June. Individual growers who used the system in the past several years found it profitable because of higher prices and less spoilage for pre-cooled shipments. Pre-cooling is done by mechanical refrigeration units mounted on trucks and driven alongside the railroad car door.

Sires Triple Yield
Of USDA Milk Goats

The principle of improving a herd through purebred sires has been demonstrated in the herd of milk goats developed by BAI at the Beltsville Research Center. The foundation herd, established in 1909, consisted of common or American bucks and does. In 1911, purebred Saanen and Toggenburg bucks were introduced into the herd. The two breeds have been kept separate. Continued use of the best purebred bucks has more than tripled the average annual milk yield of the grade does and more than doubled the average length of lactation.

National Forest
Land Approved

Approval for purchase of 112,870 acres for National Forests has been announced by John E. Burch, secretary of the National Forest Reservation Commission. The purchase involves 385 tracts in 23 States and Puerto Rico, in 44 National Forests and Purchase Units. The lands are rated as being more valuable for timber production and watershed protection than for other land use.

Entomologists'
Service Valued

The entomologist is an "unsung hero" of agriculture, Southern Agriculturist for June comments editorially, rendering prompt and effective service that runs into untold millions of dollars profit to farmers each year. The "bug hunter," the editor adds, never seeks the public spotlight and seldom gets in it until an insect infestation threatens wholesale destruction to a section or state. Then his careful training and scientific knowledge is utilized to eradicate or control the pest.

Food Locker
Plant Chain

A chain of frozen-food locker plants in the New York metropolitan area may follow the construction of such a plant near the Flemington Auction Market, cooperative center for 3,000 farmers and other co-op members in that section of New Jersey. The Flemington plant will comprise 460 lockers, each with capacity of 250 to 300 pounds of food-stuffs. An electric hoist will enable the customers to walk into a room of normal temperature and remove food from their lockers. (Ice and Refrigeration, June.)

Food-Freezing
Units For Farms

Farm families in Washington are showing much interest in economical farm freezing units, says an article in Southern Pacific Rural Press, June 14.

Agricultural engineers of Washington State College have made experimental installations and demonstrations of economically built home zero boxes. Four editions of Extension Bulletin 257, Building the Farm Freezing Plant, have been issued. The authors describe a home-built farm refrigerator plant having a combined 43 cubic-foot zero box and a 300 cubic-foot, 35 degree, cold room. It required 704 kilowatts for a year's operation, an average of 58.7 k.w. a month.

Sweet Corn
Promising In
Lower Valley

Sweet corn is likely to become a major commercial crop in the Lower Rio Grande Valley for early spring markets, says an article in Texas Farming and Citriculture, June. The Iona hybrid, planted to some 3,000 acres, has done excellently in this section. Much progress in breeding sweet corn resistant to the earworm has been made by agronomists of the USDA and State and sectional experiment stations, including the one in the Lower Valley. The article describes the dichloroethyl-ether-oil treatment for earworms, recently developed by the BEPQ.

FSA Service
Loans Valuable

FSA community service loans are filling a vital need in rural areas of the South, says Southern Planter, June. Many small farmers would like to have better equipment but have been unable to afford the initial cost. The interest rate is only 3 percent, and the principal payments are spread over a period of years and prorated according to a definite plan among those using the service.

Hay Curing
In The Mow

"High-compression" hay is the subject of an article in Michigan Farmer, June 7. It describes curing and finishing methods being tested by the TVA in cooperation with the Tennessee and Georgia Stations. About half the moisture is removed by the usual field-drying methods, and the balance is taken out by air currents forced through the crop after it is placed in the mow. The Pennsylvania station, in a 5-year test with dehydrated hay, found that the processed product is worth about \$5 more a ton than good field-cured hay, which loses valuable proteins and vitamins when leaves come off.

Civil Service
Examinations

No. 100, unassembled—executive officer, \$8,000, chief administrative officer, \$6,500, principal administrative officer, \$5,600, senior administrative officer, \$4,600, administrative officer, \$3,800, closing application date, July 21. No. 97, unassembled—poultry coordinator, \$3,800, BAI, closing application date, Aug. 1.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 3.

Section 1

July 3, 1941.

KNUDSON BACKS

ST. LAWRENCE PLAN

William S. Knudson told the House Rivers and Harbors Committee yesterday that there was no such thing as "too much power," in advocating legislation to authorize development of the St. Lawrence seaway and power project, says the New York Times, July 3. The United States must build up great stockpiles of materials from other parts of the world to be safe in event of large-scale attack, he declared, "and this means ships and more ships and the need for ships is increasing all the time."

FOOD-FOR-DEFENSE

PLAN LAUNCHED

A national effort to prevent fruits and vegetables from going to waste this summer, by promoting full use, canning, drying, or storage of these foods, was started yesterday by Miss Harriet Elliott, Associate Administrator of OPACS; Paul V. McNutt, Coordinator of Health, Welfare, and Related Defense Activities, and Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, says the New York Times, July 3. A detailed plan has been developed, providing for community action to save for immediate or future use, food which would ordinarily go to waste. Nationwide cooperation in this effort, it was said, would result in substantial addition to the nation's vital food supply.

N.Y. MILK

SUPPLY DOWN,

STRIKE CONTINUES

While Dr. John L. Rice, Commissioner of Health, and the milk distributors in the New York metropolitan area, said today's supply of milk would be adequate, the strike in the New York milkshed was felt last night as the N.Y. Metropolitan Milk Distributors Bargaining Agency found it necessary to allocate 160,000 quarts of milk to 11 small dealers whose own sources had failed them, says the New York Times, July 3. Dr. Rice said his reports indicated that 2,000,000 quarts of milk had been withheld by dairy farmers yesterday, compared with an estimated 1,300,000 on Tuesday, the first day of the strike. John O. Eastlack, secretary of the bargaining agency, said agency reports showed the amount withheld had increased from 10 percent the first day to 20 percent yesterday.

Homogenizer For
Small Dairies

An inexpensive and efficient homogenizing machine for small dairies is now on the market, says National Butter and Cheese Journal, June. Powered by a quarter-horsepower motor, the machine is only 36 inches high and 14 inches wide, and has a shipping weight of 137 pounds.

Trucks For
Defense

P. R. Reiber, in June Scientific American, says the trucking industry is mobilizing its 4,500,000 trucks for emergency transport. The trucks are operated by about 3,500,000 employees and 1,000,000 farmers, says an editors' note. Approximately 600,000 of these trucks are in the "for-hire" class, 1,000,000 are on farms, and the remaining 2,900,000 are in the private class.

Scientific
Literature

Breaking all quantity production records for the United States in scientific and technological books, publishers turned out 3,432,642 volumes in 1939, the Census Bureau reported recently. This record represents an increase of more than a million books on science and technology over the previous manufacturers' census of 1937. Added to these might be 1,018,000 books on agriculture and many others which overlap into the science and technology classes. (Scientific American, June.)

Ky. Soil
Conservation
District

Garrard County recently became the first in Kentucky to have an organized soil conservation district, under an act passed by the 1940 State legislature, says the Louisville Courier-Journal, June 23. Establishment of the district affords farmers of this section the opportunity to attack the problem of soil conservation in an organized, intelligent way, says the Courier-Journal. The problem is of such scope that no individual farmer can do much without the aid of the trained personnel and labor furnished by the SCS and CCC.

Electricity
Reduces Farm
Labor Need

The growing shortage of farm labor can be checked if electrified farms are equipped with a washing machine, refrigerator, and electric water pump, Robert B. Craig, deputy administrator of REA, said recently, according to an AP report in the Milwaukee Journal, June 24. REA is campaigning for 100,000 new farm bathrooms with running water in 1941, financed by 5-year Government loans. A refrigerator is a defense need because a possible food shortage would be restricted largely to meat and dairy products, of which countless small amounts are wasted for lack of cold storage on the farm, he said.

Tenn. Home
Food Supply

An AP report in the Memphis Commercial Appeal, June 25, says Commissioner of Agriculture C. C. Flanery reported recently that 106,046 families had enrolled this year in Tennessee's home food-supply program, about 44,000 more than last year. "This means," he said, "that more than a half million persons in the State are working actively to increase the food supply in their homes and communities."

Veterinary
Biologics
Supervision

Closer supervision over the distribution of viruses, serums, and similar biological products manufactured under Federal licenses will be required by the Department after January 1, 1942. Distributors, as well as producers and importers, will be required to keep permanent records of veterinary biological products. Producers and importers now keep records of the sources and methods of preparation, and tests of purity, of each batch of products used in the treatment of livestock when they are to be shipped interstate. The new requirement under the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act has been signed by Secretary Wickard.

Cotton
Situation

It appears likely that the domestic carry-over of American cotton at the end of the current season will total about 12.3 million bales. This compares with 10.6 at the beginning of the season and with 13.0 million on August 1, 1939. Total domestic supply of American cotton this season was about 23 million bales and domestic disappearance is expected to be about 10.7 million (about 9.6 consumption and 1.1 exports). (BAE)

National Frozen
Food Institute

Food executives of the quick-frozen foods industry recently met in New York City and completed plans for organizing a national frozen food institute, says Quick Frozen Foods, June. The group included representatives of chain stores, packers, ice-cream manufacturers, and food technologists.

Comment On
CEA Chief

Commodity exchanges may be thankful they have such a man as J. M. Mehl, chief of the Commodity Exchange Administration, with whom to deal, says editorial comment in Dairy Record, June 25. "His understanding of the functions and problems of the marts, particularly the role played by futures trading, is gratifying," it says. "Not that Mehl feels there is no room for criticism. He knows there is, and proposes to do something about it. The session in Chicago on June 4 was evidence of that."

Quick-Frozen
Poultry

Sale of quick-frozen eviscerated poultry is increasing rapidly, says an article in Quick Frozen Foods, June. Roasting turkeys, chickens, capons, and ducks come completely dressed, with pinfeathers removed, giblets wrapped separately in parchment and tucked into the body cavity, ready to stuff and roast. Cut-up poultry, in transparent cellophane-wrapped boxes, includes fryers cut into quarters or into the family style of 11 pieces, broilers split down the back, and stewing fowl cut in small pieces ready for the kettle. "Flavor-sealed" transparent wrappers are being tested for efficiency in sealing in fresh flavor and preventing drying of meat and absorption of outside flavors.

Plan Precautions Against
New Outbreak of Hoof and
Mouth Disease

War conditions in Europe have caused a breakdown in quarantine procedure and have resulted in new outbreaks of hoof and mouth disease, according to W. B. Parker of the California State Department of Agriculture, as reported in the California Cultivator, May 31. Parker said that strict and rigid regulations will be maintained in California to avoid a reoccurrence of this very serious, easily-spread livestock disease. Previous outbreaks in California were traced to garbage from ships which obtained meat supplies in foreign countries.

High Blood Pressure
Sufferers May Find
Lemons Helpful

Research work by Dr. Lawrence E. Detrick at the University of California, has demonstrated that drinking lemon juice fortified with lemon peel extract will reduce high blood pressure, and ordinary lemon juice will reduce normal blood pressure. In these tests, 20 out of 29 women whose average age was 33, had their blood pressure reduced when an ounce of lemon juice in seven ounces of water was served to them daily with each meal. (Pacific Rural Press, May 31.)

Corncobs May Have
What It Takes To
Save A Life

Inexpensive substitutes for novocain, anti-septics, and possibly sulfanilamide and its derivatives may soon be made from corncobs, oat hulls, and other farm waste materials, according to Dr. Henry Gilman, professor of chemistry at the University of Iowa, as reported in May 31 California Cultivator. Dr. Gilman explains that substances known as "furnans," which can be extracted from almost any of the farm wastes, have a wide variety of applications in medical treatment yet not appreciated or developed.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 4.

Section 1

July 7, 1941.

USDA DEFENSE BOARDS IN ALL STATES, COUNTIES

In every State and county of the United States, Department of Agriculture administrative defense boards have been established by order of Secretary Wickard. The membership of the boards comprises a representative from each of the Department agencies whose services will be called on by the Secretary to administer actions necessary to carry out his departmental responsibilities in national defense. The chairman of each State board is the head officer in the State for the AAA. The chairman of each county board is the chairman of the county AAA committee. Secretary Wickard pointed out that the major part of the Department's defense job involving field work centers on adjustment of farm production, and that helping farmers make adjustments in production, is the major job of the AAA. The agencies on the State boards include the AAA, BAE, FSA, SCS, FCA, SMA, AMS, FS, REA, and Extension Service.

PREFERRED RATING FOR STEEL FOR GRAIN BINS

Aid for farmers facing a serious shortage of storage space for grain now being harvested was assured yesterday by OPACS action providing emergency preference ratings for 15,000 tons of sheet steel to be used in construction of grain bins, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 7. A total of 10,000 tons of galvanized sheets is included in the allocation program, of which about 6,000 tons have already been delivered to grain-bin manufacturers, and 5,000 tons of black sheets.

N.Y.C. MILK SHORTAGE

The Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, whose 30,000 members produce more than half of the city's daily milk supply, will not join the 6-day old strike of the Dairy Farmers Union, says the New York Times, July 7. The action of the league, which, the Times says, assures the city of an adequate supply of milk despite any continuation of the strike, was taken following a conference yesterday between Governor Lehman and representatives of 55,000 dairy farmers in the New York milkshed.

Trade Movements
Compared For
Years 1929, 1937

Analyzing trade movements in the years 1929 and 1937, Dr. Cleona Lewis of the Brookings Institution has found that, like old Germany itself, the 20 countries of Continental Europe taken together showed a heavy excess of food and raw-material net imports over net exports of manufactures. This unfavorable balance, highlighting the area's basic handicap in terms of economic self-sufficiency, amounted to \$1,600,000,000 in 1929 and \$1,300,000,000 in 1937. As for specific products, the Institution reported that without heavy importations, Nazi Europe would face these problems: dangerous deficiency in cereals and fats; possible destruction of the Continent's great textile industries for lack of cotton, wool, silk, jute, and even flax and hemp; fewer and inferior machines and machine tools because of a shortage of alloy and bearing metals; no asbestos or mica; insufficient copper. (Newsweek, June 23.)

Farm Storage
For Fruit Crops

Fruit growers are finding that the control of packing and marketing that storage on the farm makes possible enables them to regulate profitably the flow of fruit crops to the consumer, says American Fruit Grower for June. If the fruit grower can adequately support the financial load of building a storage, benefits will be numerous. If he has been storing his fruit in commercial storages, he no longer will have to pay relatively high rates to commercial operators. Figures show that it costs the grower 5 to 15 cents a bushel to operate his own storage while he must pay 15 to 25 cents a bushel for commercial storage. With a rapidly growing consumer taboo on bruised and battered apples which may have been injured in ordinary commercial handling, growers are realizing that they must store, package, and market their own fruit. They are accomplishing this by establishing their own cold storage on the farm and controlling their own marketing program.

Socialized
Veterinary
Medicine?

At the recent Cornell conference, Dean Hagan told the veterinarians that they should be prepared for changes in the practice of veterinary medicine in the direction of what is called "socialized medicine" or "state medicine" in medical circles, says an editorial in the North American Veterinarian for June. Hagan suggested that veterinarians familiarize themselves with the advantages and disadvantages of "contract practice." The most important feature of plans thus far suggested has been to lower the cost of veterinary service to owners of animals. One way of looking at the situation, the editorial says, is to regard the fees paid to veterinarians under a plan of this kind as in the nature of insurance premiums, with the risk spread over all the animals in a community, the cost shared by all the livestock owners in the territory, and the expense evenly distributed throughout the 12 months of the year.

July 7, 1941.

"Packaged
Plumbing"

Thousands of farm families on REA lines are now using modern lighting fixtures made available in the "packaged lighting" unit developed by REA in cooperation with equipment manufacturers. This was a revolutionary idea in merchandising and co-op members have benefited through large reductions in price. Now, the same principle has been adopted for plumbing. "Packaged plumbing" units contain necessary equipment and fixtures for a modern pressure water system, kitchen sink, bathroom, and sewage disposal system. Each unit is designed to fit the individual requirements of the farm for which it is ordered. A shallow-well pump and running water to the house can be had for less than \$50. Similar savings are obtainable on all plumbing equipment and fixtures, including bathtub, water closet, water heater, irrigation system, and drinking fountains for livestock. (Rural Electrification News, May.)

Synthetic
Rubber
From Corn?

Farmers and scientists have looked forward to the establishment of a corn-alcohol factory on a going commercial basis, but not much has been accomplished. Now the National Defense Advisory Commission has become interested, but with a different purpose in view. The new element introduced into the picture is the manufacture of synthetic rubber. Iowa State College officials have been asked by the Commission to work out a way to make alcohol from corn and then use it for making artificial rubber. The object is to develop an industry which would have a use in peace as well as in war. (Country Gentleman, June.)

New Prune
Concentrate

Perfection of a new, richly flavored prune concentrate superior to the sirups now used commercially was recently announced by W. V. Cruess of the University of California fruit products laboratory, says California Cultivator, June 28. The concentrate is a heavy sirup which yields rich prune juice on dilution with water. It is also useful in making milk shakes, malted milks, ice cream, bottled prune soda, prune whips, and similar products.

Farm Income Up,
1941 Production
May Be Record

In a summary of the current and prospective agricultural situation, the Department says: Increased industrial production and the largest national income in history are providing good domestic markets for farm products. Prices of farm products have advanced, but many products continue to stand lower in purchasing power than in the 1910-14 period of parity. Farm income this year will be the largest since 1929, but the total will be less than 9 percent of the national income. Farm income in 1929 was 10 percent of the national income; in 1910-14 it was 16 to 18 percent.

Priority For
Repairs Aids
Agriculture

Establishment of priority for repair and maintenance materials for 26 industries and services essential to public welfare, including most of the requirements of agriculture, is described by the Office of Agricultural Defense Relations as "the best possible assurance that the Nation's farmers will be able to carry on their vital food-for-defense program." Announcement of the priority status was made July 1 by the Civilian Supply Allocation Division of the OPACS. "The action of OPACS," Director M. Clifford Townsend, of Agricultural Defense Relations, said, "in including agriculture's needs in the list of essential industries and services gives full recognition to the unspectacular but basic contributions farmers are making to the defense program."

Chemicals May
Lure, Not
Repel, Insects

Chemical lures, instead of poison sprays, may eventually be used as protection for crops, says Science Service, June 24. It may become possible to mislead insect pests to lay eggs in chemically scented traps instead of on plants. Dr. V. G. Dethier of John Carroll University, addressing the recent A.A.A.S. meeting, said he had been experimenting with many kinds of insects and chemical compounds found in plants, to get an idea of what induces certain species to lay their eggs on just one, or a few, kinds of plants. The cabbage butterfly, which lays eggs only on the leaves of cabbages and related plants, was attracted by compounds found in that group of plants. The orange puppy, a pest of citrus, is lured by the scent of citral and methyl-nonyl-ketone. Dr. Dethier demonstrated that insects are guided by their chemical sense by impregnating filter paper with chemical compounds preferred by various species. Each insect went to the paper scented with its favorite odor, despite lack of other resemblance to leaves.

Seedless Orange,
Hardy Apricot

A new seedless orange and a cold-resistant apricot tree are among plants recently patented, says Science Service, June 27. The orange is a bud sport of the variety known as the pineapple orange, one of the best oranges grown for the trade in Florida. It has many seeds, however, while the new development is seedless. The novel element in the new apricot is its hardiness. Most apricots are tender. The originator of the new variety says that trees grafted on plum roots have lived through several severe winters in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Consumer
Information

Consumers and consumer information assume enhanced importance just now when we have tied our regular economy to a military economy, and prices are bound to rise, says T. Swann Harding, of the Department, writing in American Journal of Pharmacy, May. Regardless of what the Defense Advisory Commission and its successors may do, consumers are bound to suffer increasingly as time goes on. Since incomes will not keep pace with prices, every effort must be made to prevent fraud and unwarranted price rises. Giving consumers such information as will enable them to buy economically is one way of raising their incomes.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 5.

Section 1

July 8, 1941.

STIMSON URGES
IMPORT DUTY
RESTRICTIONS

Secretary Stimson has urged Congress to enact legislation permitting the Treasury to eliminate import duties on any article certified by any department or agency to be useful for national defense, says an AP report in the Washington Post, July 8. The measure provides that duties may be wiped out on goods imported "by or on behalf of" Government departments or agencies. Stimson supported the legislation in a letter, made public yesterday, to Chairman Reynolds (North Carolina) of the Senate Military Committee.

SAYS ST. LAWRENCE
SEAWAY WOULD
LOWER FREIGHT COST

A UP report in the New York Journal of Commerce, July 8, says John C. Beukema, representing the National Seaway Council and the Michigan Great Lakes Tidewater Commission, yesterday told the House Rivers and Harbors Committee that completion of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence seaway would reduce freight rates to mid-west farmers and industrialists by 15 to 50 percent. He said freight costs of seaway-borne cargoes to London, Antwerp, and northern European ports would be little higher than rail-freight rates from lake ports to New York.

VEGETABLE, CHEMICAL
PRODUCTS REQUIRE
EXPORT LICENSES

Brig.-Gen. Russell L. Maxwell, Export Control Administrator, yesterday added five vegetable products and eight chemicals to the list of commodities requiring export licenses, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 8. The vegetable products include coconut shells, cube root, derris root, red squill, and pyrethrum flowers. The chemicals include coconut-shell char, rotenone, phenol-formaldehyde resins, urea-formaldehyde resins, acetic acid, acetic anhydride, menthanol, and acetone. Issued under Saturday's Presidential proclamation, which will be effective July 23, the order was incorporated into export schedule No. 12, which also includes revisions of earlier schedules in regard to hides and skins, rubber, vegetable fibers, and electrical machinery.

Synthetic
Starch

Starch has been made synthetically from glucose in the University of California laboratories in Berkeley by W. Z. Hassid and R. M. McCready, says Science Service, June 24. This is the first case on record of starch production by any means except the action of plants themselves. The reaction was brought about with the aid of the enzyme phosphorylase, which the two scientists isolated from potato juice. Starch is produced so cheaply by plants that no industrial use is anticipated for the new synthesizing process, but it is significant as a step in scientific knowledge of the way plants work.

X-Ray Grades
Swiss Cheese

A cooperative cheese plant near Basco, Dane County, is trying out a revolutionary system of grading, says Wisconsin Agriculturist, June 28. The plant operator is using X-rays and a fluorescent plate to get shadow pictures of the interiors of big drums of Swiss cheese. One advantage of testing Swiss cheese in this way is that it is unnecessary to use the trier repeatedly in sampling. Moreover, the new device enables the cheesemaker to check blemishes in the interior texture and to determine the size, shape, extent, and distribution of eyes. The X-ray grading machine apparently is more suitable for Swiss cheese than for other varieties made in Wisconsin.

Control Of
Red Leaf
On Grapes

Discovery of the cause of a severe type of red leaf which has attacked black grapes in California for more than 40 years was reported recently to the American Phytopathological Society by scientists of the University of California, says California Cultivator, June 28. Jacob Hewitt, and Proebsting said experiments had shown the disease to be closely associated with mite injury and could be prevented by controlling the mites before the leaves of the vines turn red. The red leaf disease has occurred periodically in California since 1900 and has caused almost complete loss of the crop in some areas.

"Natural Areas"
In Forestry

The New York State College of Forestry has established a Natural Area of about 1,000 acres on the Huntington Wildlife Forest, says Frank E. Egler, of the college, in Science, July 4. The forest, a 15,000-acre tract in the central Adirondacks, is held in trust for the College of Forestry and is administered by the Roosevelt Wildlife Forest Experiment Station. Appreciation for the role of the Natural Area in land-management research is developing rapidly, he says. New possibilities are revealed where multiple land use is designed to supply the highest returns of such renewable resources as timber, wildlife, forage, water, and recreational values.

Plastics For
Defense

The increasing emphasis placed on national defense in 1940 has already had the effect of greatly increasing output and broadening the industrial uses of the plastics industry, says The Index (of the New York Trust Company) for Summer. The long-term implications of the effects of war on the industry promise to be notable. Plastics have two fields of use in the preparedness program: direct military uses and secondary or indirect uses, resulting from shortages of various materials. Further in the future is the possibility that the plastic plywood airplane may prove the answer to mass production in certain branches of the aviation industry. Intensive research is being done under Government auspices, as well as by private industry, to enable plastics to fill at least part of the gap left by shortages of various metals.

Flora Of
Guatemala

Paul C. Standley, curator of the herbarium of the Field Museum of Natural History, has returned to Chicago after an expedition of 7 1/2 months, bringing a collection of about 30,000 specimens of plants from Guatemala. These plants and others collected on two previous expeditions will be used for the preparation of the first complete flora of Guatemala to be published. (Science, July 4.)

Nutrition
Material

In the June Journal of Home Economics, Miriam Birdseye, of the Department, gives a list of publications and films as aids in teaching food and nutrition, and Hazel M. Hauck, of N.Y. State College of Home Economics, gives summaries of research in food and nutrition.

Rhubarb
Juice

Rhubarb juice has beverage possibilities still relatively undeveloped, says Market Growers Journal, July 1. It makes a good drink by itself if properly sweetened and is excellent when blended with other juices. The N.Y. Experiment Station (Geneva) has prepared a circular on the preparation of rhubarb juice. The oxalic acid of rhubarb, which is present as acid potassium oxalate, and which some consider undesirable, may be readily removed by methods described in the circular.

Soil Bacilli
Kill Diseases

Two species of bacilli that live in the soil have been found to be deadly enemies of a considerable number of species of bacteria and fungi that cause diseases in plants, animals, and man, by P.A. Ark and Marjorie L. Hunt of the University of California, says Science News Letter, July 5. This adds to the list, only recently started, of germs that kill other germs. One of the two newly recognized germ-killing bacilli is *Bacillus vulgatus*. The other is a yellow bacillus not yet identified.

Fowl Ticks
May Transmit
Paralysis

Ticks are under indictment for carrying fowl paralysis, says Science News Letter, July 5. Research by J. C. Brown and J. C. Cross, of Texas College of Arts and Industries, suggests that the carrier is the fowl tick, or "blue bug." It was noticed that chickens in pens infested with fowl ticks were dying of paralysis at an appalling rate. Thorough cleanup and disinfection of some of the pens was followed by a high survival rate. In the infested pens 111 birds out of 120 developed paralysis. In the cleaned-up control pens only 1 bird out of 126 was stricken. Further research is in progress.

To Study Fruit
Loss In Shipping

Since the California Tree Fruit Agreement has operated, it has ironed out most of the problems to do with grade and size control of Bartlett pears, plums, and Elberta peaches, says Southern Pacific Rural Press, June 28, but losses during shipment to the East have been too heavy. With the opening of 1941 shipments, commodity committees of the agreement are starting field research to learn how to overcome the shipping losses. The work will be directed by W. T. Pentzer, BPI, (Fresno, Calif.) and W. P. Tufts, California Experiment Station. C. N. Ely is being sent to the East to investigate conditions at eastern receiving points.

S.C.S. Stream
Clearance Plan
In New Jersey

In the first such program of its kind undertaken in the Northeast, the Soil Conservation Service has initiated a stream clearance project in Monmouth County (N.J.) says Pennsylvania Farmer, July 5. The work is being done at the Manasquan River, the object being to restore to tillable condition several hundreds of acres of once fertile farm land long subject to frequent flooding by the river. The program is under the Freehold Soil Conservation District, aided by Civilian Conservation Corps workers and others.

Farmers, Stockmen
Borrow More
For Defense

Farmers and stockmen borrowed more than \$200,000,000 of short-term credit from 525 production-credit associations during the first six months of 1941 to finance crop and livestock operations, the Department says. C. R. Arnold, Production Credit Commissioner of FCA, attributed the increase of more than 19 percent over the same period last year to increased production by many farmers of vital foods under the food-for-defense program, to rising production costs, to the necessity of hiring labor and buying machinery to replace family labor that has entered the Army or defense industries, and to increased tendency of members to obtain all short-term financing from their associations. All parts of the country showed increases this year.

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

July 9, 1941.

COTTON CROP ESTIMATE

The acreage planted to cotton in the United States as of July 1 was estimated by the Crop Reporting Board of the USDA yesterday at 23,519,000 acres, indicating that fewer acres will be harvested this season than since 1895, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 9. The estimate was about 1,000,000 acres short of the average of trade expectations. Cotton rose to new highs for the past decade on the New York exchange as a consequence, showing gains of 30 to 35 points at one time, and ending the day net 11 to 19 up. Deduction of normal abandonment after July 1 from this season's figure would, according to the board, give an acreage for harvest of 23,102,000 acres.

M.L. WILSON NAMED NUTRITION DIRECTOR,

M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Service in the USDA, was appointed yesterday as director of nutrition by Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator, says the New York Times, July 9. In his new post Dr. Wilson will aid Mr. McNutt in his work as Coordinator of Health, Welfare, and Related Defense Activities. Mr. McNutt said Dr. Wilson will be in charge of all Government nutrition activities, will direct educational programs in the preparation of foods, and will seek to improve the nation's diet.

OPACS NAMES FOOD MEN

Initial executive staff for the food and food products section of the price division, OPACS, was announced yesterday by J. K. Galbraith, assistant administrator in charge, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 9. Harold B. Rowe, who has been economic adviser to Miss Harriett Elliott, was appointed price executive. Rowe, who has undertaken special research for the USDA from time to time, is on leave from the Brookings Institution. A. C. Hoffman was appointed principal economist, coming from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Victor L. Lea, named principal business specialist with particular reference to fats and oils, has been manager of the commodity department of Fenner & Beane, New York.

Truck Defense
Plans, Record
Freight, Laws

Ralph Budd, transportation commissioner of OPM, has established a central committee on motor carriers, to plan for priorities in motor-truck production. Later the group, headed by John Rogers, of ICC, will advise on truck problems to ease movement of defense materials. Budd has set up 16 regional advisory committees.

The American Trucking Association reports volume of revenue freight transported by motor truck in May reached an all-time peak. Some 194 motor carriers in 39 States carried 1,399,952 tons during that month.

The A.T.T. also reports that during the past State legislative sessions, 15 States liberalized length and weight limits on motor trucks, hundreds of restrictive proposals were killed, about a dozen States signed truck-operation reciprocity agreements with other States, and several States launched plans for superhighways which may speed truck transport. Among proposals killed were bills to reduce loads, to divert motor-vehicle funds, to double truck-license fees, and to increase State gasoline taxes.

In 1917, there were only 326,000 trucks in the United States. Today, more than 4,600,000 are available. The Automobile Manufacturers Association reports that 48,492 communities without rail facilities are served by trucks. (Business Week, July 5.)

Brazil Makes
Plastics
From Coffee

Brazil early this month started to produce plastics from coffee, and a scheme planned originally only to salvage some of the country's surfeit of coffee shows signs of developing into a major industry, says Business Week, July 5. The new industry is in Sao Paulo, where in a pilot plant, green coffee is being turned into plastics. Only 50,000 bags can be treated annually in the pilot plant, but equipment has been ordered from the United States for a larger plant which will be able to handle 5,000,000 bags a year. The great advantage of the new product to South American markets is that it does not need to be combined with other compounds available only in foreign countries which need all such materials at home during the present emergency.

Mortality From Fowl
Paralysis Mounting

Kansas Extension News Service reports that one of the most serious causes of loss in poultry flocks is mortality during the first laying year. The percentage of mortality has been increasing rapidly during the past few years. Much of the loss is due to diseases associated with fowl paralysis. The birds usually show a pale eye and paralyzed wings or legs. No cure is known for this disease.

Kansas Grain
Tax Law

Under the new (Kansas) grain tax law which becomes effective with the 1941 harvest, producers and handlers of grain will contribute \$3,000 to the support of State and local government, County Agent H. J. Adams estimates. The act, which levies one-half mill a bushel on all kinds of grain, applies to the 1941 crop for the first time. (Belleville, Kans., Telescope, June 26.)

N. C. AIDS
LIVESTOCK
FARMERS

Under an agreement of the N. C. State Agriculture Department and Highway Commission, State prison farms will be used to fatten western North Carolina livestock for sale at cost to eastern Carolina farmers, says the Greensboro News, June 27. A \$25,000 revolving fund will be set up for purchase and sale of the livestock. Livestock facilities at prison farms will be placed under a newly established State marketing authority, with the object of providing machinery whereby farmers can get livestock at actual cost, plus a small handling charge, said Paul L. Fletcher, livestock marketing specialist of the State Agriculture Department.

New Cotton
Uses Urged
At Congress

Cotton dresses and fabrics, cotton jackets for newly born range lambs, extended use of cotton road mats and airplane runways, wholesale insulation of old and new homes with cotton fibers, and cotton lint for high-grade white paper, were among suggestions made by national cotton experts recently at the second annual Cotton Research Congress in Texas, says Dallas News, June 28. J. B. Wyckoff, of the U.S.D.A., told how the Government is expanding uses of cotton. He saw special opportunity for using surplus cotton in making bond and other high-grade writing paper for which rags have been used for 150 years. This industry, he said, had never tried cotton lint until the Federal Government developed the idea.

Improved Remedy
For Screwworms

E & PQ has developed a new remedy for both preventing and treating screwworm infestations on livestock. The remedy, known as formula or smear 62, consists of a mixture of diphenylamine, benzol, turkey red oil, and lamp black. Former screwworm remedies recommended by the Department involve the use of one material to kill the screwworm maggots and of a second to prevent re-infestation. Formula 62 is relatively inexpensive, costing about \$1.50 a gallon, enough to treat 200 to 250 livestock wounds. Directions for preparing and applying it are given in a new bureau circular, E-540.

Fla. Farm
Associations

A law providing for organization in Florida of agricultural associations, permitting farmers and growers to get the benefits of collective effort without the personal liability and expense involved in corporate structure, was passed by the 1941 legislature, says Florida Grower, July. The law was drawn in the interest of the small farmer.

Nutrition
And Defense

A great step toward translating scientific knowledge of foodstuffs into terms of practical dietary was taken in Washington at the first National Nutrition Conference for Defense, Modern Medicine, July, comments editorially. Though the problems of nutrition are being intensively studied today because of their importance to national defense, they will always deserve study for their contribution to human welfare, it says. The publication also contains articles on the conference and on the evaluation of nutrition in children.

N.Y. Station
Invents Apple-
Raspberry Juice

A formula for apple-raspberry juice—a blend of Baldwin, Northern Spy, and Cortland apples with Black Bristol and purple raspberry pomace—has been developed by the N. Y. State Station at Geneva, says Food Industries, July. The black and tart purple raspberries are frozen during the fruiting season with 10 percent added sugar, and held in storage until the apples are ready to press. The pomace is then extracted with equal quantities of apple juice and pressed again. The berry juices are added to the apple juice and packed in No. 2, tall 20-oz. cans. The product fills the need of an outlet for these fruits, says the publication.

Thiocarbamide
Prevents Browning
Of Cut Fruit

An effective method of preventing the browning of cut fruit tissues has been announced by scientists at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, says Food Industries, July. The method involves the use of a non-toxic chemical, thiocarbamide, which has been made available to the public in tablet form. A tablet is dissolved in a quart of water and fruit dipped into the solution. Fresh sliced fruit treated in this manner will retain its original color for one day at room temperature and for many months in frozen or cold storage.

Farmers' Markets
In Florida

Florida's State farmers' markets, comprising the only State-operated system of the kind, now number 27, are valued at more than \$1,000,000, and cost the State only \$300,000, says an editorial in Florida Grower, July. This is the result of economies through WPA assistance in construction and a self-sustaining system of operation. The first State farmers' market was put into operation in 1935.

National
Science Fund

Organization of the National Science Fund, a new foundation to receive and administer gifts for the advancement of science, was announced recently at the annual meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, says Modern Medicine, July. The fund will be administered by a board of 20 scientists and 12 laymen. Its organization comes as a result of a 3-year study showing the need to develop sources of additional money for scientific research.

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Section 1

July 10, 1941.

"BIG FOUR" WHEAT COUNTRIES MEET TO DISCUSS SURPLUS

Representatives of the four world major surplus wheat-producing countries—Argentina, Canada, Australia, and the United States—will convene in Washington today to discuss an international ever-normal granary program for dealing with the surplus problem, says the New York Times, July 10. Also participating in a conference, called by the State Department, were representatives from the United Kingdom, one of the few large import markets not cut off by the war. Such a program, modeled after the AAA crop control plan, has been suggested by agricultural leaders in several of the countries now affected by unmarketable surpluses and, in some cases, depressed grower prices of bread grains.

RFC COMMITMENTS; FREIGHT CAR POOL PLAN SUGGESTED

Defense commitments of the RFC and its subsidiaries have reached a new peak of \$2,819,000,000, Jesse H. Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, stated yesterday. Mr. Jones, also Secretary of Commerce, said that the fund included \$190,000,000 for rubber reserves; \$623,000,000 for metal reserves; \$110,000,000 for other defense supplies; \$1,752,000,000 for defense plants; \$94,000,000 for working capital, and the rest, miscellaneous items. Mr. Jones said he had no figure mentioned in connection with a reported plan for a national freight car pool to be organized by the railroads, but that he had informed transportation officials of the RFC's willingness to help finance car acquisitions in any way the roads think best. (New York Times, July 10.)

FREIGHT CONTROL LEGISLATION

Legislation providing for strict Federal control by the ICC of the freight forwarding business was completed yesterday by a subcommittee of the House Interstate Commerce Committee and will be reported to the full committee next week, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 10. Chairman Lea (California) expressed hope that the measure would receive the committee's approval at that time, thus paving the way for submission of the bill to the House for passage.

Selective System
May Defer
Farm Workers

Agriculture is among the industries in which occupational deferment of individuals can be granted under the selective service act, says a report in the Daily Pantagraph (Bloomington, Ill., June 27). Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, in a letter to Brig.-Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, deputy director of the selective service system, reported that the farm labor problem is serious in some regions, but not acute in others. He urged that the selective draft system give careful consideration to workers urgently needed for the production of foods vital to defense.

FS Radiophones
Aid In Forestry

About nine different types of two-way voice radiophones have been developed by the Forest Service, says A. G. Simson, FS, in American Forests, July. Each was designed for a specific purpose. Use of the radiophones is not limited to the FS. Agencies using them are the British Columbia Forest Service, Australian Forest Service, state forestry organizations, Federal agencies, and non-forestry agencies such as the Lighthouse Service and Navy. Existing radiophone models are constantly being improved to keep step with technical advances. Some current projects are automatic relay stations to extend communication range of ultra-high frequencies beyond the line of sight, radio facsimile transmission of fire maps and messages, portable radio direction finders to orient and otherwise aid smokechasers in locating "sleeper" fires where it is difficult to follow a compass course.

Rattle-Bush
Repels Rodents

Beans of the rattle-bush, a leguminous shrub which grows in waste places from Florida to Arkansas and Texas, may have value for repelling rodents, says American Forests, July. Tests were made by the BAC & E at the request of the hillculture division of the SCS. The bush bears heavy crops of beans, poisonous to sheep and goats. Rodents fed rations containing meal made of finely ground rattle-bush beans--the proportion of meal varying from 25 to 1/2 of 1 percent--preferred to die rather than eat the test diet, even when it contained only 1/2 of 1 percent of rattle-bush meal.

Light Paint--
Cooler House

A house painted white or another light color will keep cooler in summer than if it is a darker color, says Science Digest, August. Tests made at the National Bureau of Standards indicated that any dark paint will absorb nearly as much of the radiation from the sun as black, the result being a marked increase in temperature. In a recent report are given data concerning a series of tests made in connection with the bureau's research program on low-cost housing.

Record Colombian
Coffee Exports

A Bogota cable to the New York Times, July 9, says coffee exports of Colombia reached the highest peak in the history of the industry for the fiscal year 1941, according to official figures of the Federation of Coffee Growers. The export crop consisted of 4,401,289 sacks, of which over 4,000,000 went to the United States, an increase of more than 600,000 sacks over the previous year.

Vitamins In
Animal Nutrition;
Rationed Feeds

North American Veterinarian for June contains an article on vitamins in animal nutrition, by two members of the Department of Animal Husbandry, University of Illinois. In these days of national emergency, says the article, proper feeding of farm animals and of human population is assuming a more important role. Qualitative deficiencies in the animal diet may cause disorders, even though it is supplied with a large volume of feed. Only by careful planning and wide dissemination of knowledge concerning dietary requirements can the animal be adequately and economically fed.

Reports from England, the publication also says, show that feedstuffs for animals are being distributed to livestock with one aim in view, that of fair distribution as regards human needs. Feed for livestock that produce food for humans is allotted in this order: dairy cattle, fattening cattle and sheep, and pigs and poultry. The primary concern is to maintain an adequate milk supply. Ration cards have been issued to poultry raisers for obtaining poultry feed. Feed for animals used for pleasure or recreation has been greatly reduced or cut off altogether.

U.S., Brazil
Sign Trade
Agreement

A Rio de Janeiro cable to the New York Times, July 9, says the United States and Brazil have concluded a trade agreement under which the U.S. for two years will purchase the entire Brazilian supply of strategic materials. Under the agreement, signed by U.S. Ambassador Jefferson Caffery and Brazilian Foreign Minister Oswaldo Aranha, the materials, rubber and 10 minerals, will not be available to other countries.

Adds Ryegrass
To 1941 Seed
Purchase Plan

The Department announces ryegrass has been added to the 1941 Seed Purchase Program designed to encourage production of cover-crop seed for southern and east central States. The Commodity Credit Corporation will offer a basic price of \$3.60 per hundred pounds for annual ryegrass seed needed under the conservation materials program. Seed purchased will be transferred to the AAA and offered to farmers in southern and east central States in lieu of payments under the 1942 Agricultural Conservation Program.

Eastern Farm
Labor Shortage

Defense activity in the cities, towns, and villages of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and eastern New York has begun to have repercussions on the farms, says correspondence in the New York Times, July 8. Industrial hours, steady work, good wages, and town life has attracted skilled and unskilled labor from the farms. The draft also has been a factor in depleting the countryside of farm workers. Shortage of farm labor had begun to be felt during the crop-growing period, and now that the rapidly ripening crops are nearing harvest, the shortage is becoming acute, especially on the vegetable and small-fruit farms which depend for harvest on hand labor. The Federal Government has already recognized the farm labor shortage. The Office of Education is planning a program of defense training for out-of-school youth. Training units in farm tractors, farm metal working, and farm electricity are being established.

Sugar Payments
Announced

The Department has made public the 282 conditional payments of \$10,000 or more to participants in the 1939 sugar program in the continental sugar-beet area, mainland sugarcane area, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. A total of 110,244 producers took part in the program, and the total payments, including abandonment and deficiency payments to producers under the insurance, amounted to \$47,111,000, or an average of \$427 per producer.

U.S. Farm Exports
Continue Decline

Agricultural exports in the 10 months ended April 30 were, in spite of some improvement in the past 2 months, 60 percent below the level of a year earlier, says Foreign Crops and Markets (June 30, Supplement). Nonagricultural exports continued to soar, showing an increase of 24 percent in the 10 months compared with the same period in 1939-40. The continued rise in the value of supplementary agricultural imports has brought the total for the 10 months to a point 4 percent above the level of a year earlier, the first time in the present fiscal year that the value of imports has exceeded that reached in the same period of 1939-40.

FAR says that in the interest of national defense, the Government Executive Departments, for the duration of the emergency, have suspended publication of statistics of exports by country of destination, beginning with April. While this plan is in effect, no statistics of agricultural exports and export markets will be published in the Foreign Trade Supplement to Foreign Crops and Markets.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 8.

Section 1

July 11, 1941.

WORLD WHEAT CONFERENCE

Sumner Welles, Acting Secretary of State, warned last night -- at the International Wheat Conference that within another year wheat surpluses totaling 1,500,000,000 bushels will hang over international markets unless the world's wheat-growing nations take constructive measures to solve problems resulting from the war, says the Washington Post, July 11. Welles said we -- the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and Argentina -- have a common interest in conditions which will prevail in world wheat markets when the war is over.

CORN, WHEAT FORECASTS

The Department of Agriculture yesterday forecast this year's corn crop at 2,548,709,000 bushels and total wheat production at 923,613,000 bushels, says the New York Times, July 11. The corn forecast, the first made this year, compares with 2,449,200,000 bushels produced last year and 2,307,452,000 bushels for the 1930-39 average. The wheat forecast compares with 816,698,000 bushels produced last year and a 1930-39 average production of 747,507,000 bushels.

OADR PERSONNEL ANNOUNCED

Administrative personnel of the recently established Office of Agricultural Defense Relations was announced yesterday by the Department. In addition to M. Clifford Townsend, Director, other personnel are: David Meeker, former assistant to the Secretary, as assistant director; D. A. FitzGerald, assistant chief of Division of State and Local Planning, BAE, as chief of Production Division; L. L. Needler, former secretary of the Indiana Farm Bureau and former purchasing agent of the State of Indiana, as chief of Farm Equipment and Supplies Division; James E. Wells, Jr., now special assistant to the Secretary, as chief of Transportation and Marketing Division; Raymond C. Smith, chief program analyst of BAE and chairman of a Department sub-committee on farm labor, as chief of Labor and Rural Industries Division.

OPM PRIORITY FOR CANNING EQUIPMENT

To insure maximum conservation of this year's fruit and vegetable crops and prevent possible losses, OPM yesterday granted priority preference to manufacturers of canning machinery, says the Washington Post, July 11. The action was taken, it was explained, because of fear that not enough machinery and equipment is available for getting foodstuffs into containers.

Beecher, A
New Barley

Beecher barley, a smooth-awned, early-maturing variety of good weight and with prospects of outyielding standard recommended varieties by 30 percent, will be ready for non-irrigation farmers next spring, says Western Farm Life, July 1. In tests made at Akron, under the supervision of D. W. Robertson (Colorado Experiment Station), Beecher yielded 14 bushels to the acre, while Club Mariout, the standard variety for non-irrigated lands, produced only 10.7 bushels. Seed has been released to growers and will be ready for general distribution next year.

Transport Control
In Emergencies

Writing on transportation and power in national defense, in Foreign Policy Reports, July 1, John C. DeWilde says that in contrast to the last war, the government has broad powers which permit it to exercise extensive control of the railways, short of actually operating them. If the ICC finds that a shortage of equipment, congestion of traffic, or other emergency exists, it may suspend the operation of rules regarding car service, issue directions with respect to car movement, and require the pooling of terminal facilities. It also is authorized to accord priority ratings to shipments "in time of war or threatened war" provided the President certifies that such action is necessary to national defense.

Illinois Soybean-
Growing Contest

Illinois, leading soybean-producing State, will conduct a 10-acre soybean growing contest this year in an effort to promote the most efficient methods of producing higher-quality beans, says the I.A.A. Record, July. The Illinois Crop Improvement Association will be in charge, with county farm advisers and the College of Agriculture cooperating. Judging of entries will be on the basis of 40 percent for yield, 25 percent for economy of production, 20 percent for oil content, and 14 percent for quality.

Freight Rate
Hearings

An AP dispatch in the New York Times, July 11, says four basic studies pertaining to the nation's freight rate structure were presented to the Interstate Commerce Commission in St. Louis recently at the first of a series of hearings in various sections of the country. The hearings concern class rates applicable to inter-state shipments of freight between points east of the Rocky Mountains and consolidated freight classifications throughout the United States.

Brazil Fixes
Coffee Prices

The National Coffee Department of Brazil has established minimum prices on coffee for export below which no sales in the future to consuming centers may be affected, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 10. The new price schedule in terms of American currency established the market with Santos soft 4s at the equivalent of 12¢ laid down in New York, about 1/2¢ higher than prices prevailing recently in New York.

Venezuelan
Veterinary
Research

Among studies at the Venezuelan Institute for Veterinary Research, opened a year ago, are those on the control of Bang's disease, common in Venezuela, says an article in the Bulletin of the Pan American Union, July. Tests of a vaccine prepared by a method suggested by the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry indicate that a way has been found to control the disease, it says, and manufacture of the vaccine will start shortly on a large scale. The article also says that due to the work of the institute, it has become unnecessary to import anthrax, encephalomyelitis, and paralytic rabies vaccines. In the past, Venezuela has been wholly dependent on imported products.

Conservation
Of Tin

By an all-out program of substitution in an emergency, the United States could reduce its tin consumption by three-fourths and supply the remaining fourth entirely by imports from Bolivia, a committee of the National Academy of Science has reported to OPM. Recommended by the committee as the most ready means to bring about further conservation of the metal in actual emergency or to facilitate accumulation of an adequate stock pile was the suggestion that silver be substituted for tin in solder. Sixty-six million ounces of silver annually would effect replacement of tin in solder, the committee told OPM. (New York Times, July 10.)

Enriched Flour
And Bread

The Journal of the A.M.A., June 28, in a report of the Council on Foods and Nutrition, says nutritionally improved or enriched flours and breads made in accordance with standards (of Government agencies and the A.M.A. council) make possible a marked improvement in diet. Flours made according to the principles adopted by the council should have the full nutritional value of whole wheat flour with respect to thiamin (vitamin B₁) and other important dietary essentials. The improved flours, however, do not fully take the place of whole wheat unless prepared by special milling processes, nor do they minimize the necessity of extending educational efforts directed to the guidance of the public in the selection of adequate diets, says the report.

Brazilian
Pine Institute

A National Pine Institute was established recently in Brazil, says the Bulletin of the Pan American Union, July, to promote the interests of lumbermen, manufacturers, and exporters of pine lumber and other products. Headquarters will be in Rio de Janeiro. President Vargas appointed Manuel Enrique da Silva, member of the National Economic Commission, president of the institute.

Sterile Paper
Milk Containers

Sterilization of paper containers for milk presents a particular problem, says the A.M.A. Journal, July 5, since methods used for glass bottles are not generally applicable to paper. Recently Moss and his associates (Pub. Health Rept.) reported data on the temperature and time combination of a paraffining procedure that provides adequate bactericidal treatment of paper board. The studies indicate that the bactericidal efficiency of the process increases considerably with small rises in temperature. A manufacturer of food containers has supported a fellowship at one university for research on paper containers and at another for study of the bacterial lethal effect of hot paraffin.

New Science
Office In OPM

Coordination of all scientific activities concerned with national defense is the objective of the new Office of Scientific Research and Development which has been created in OPM by Executive order of President Roosevelt, says Science Service. Under the directorship of Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution and until now chairman of the National Defense Research Committee, the new organization will serve as liaison agency for a number of scientific groups which will report directly to the President. Funds for research for the production of defense materials and methods, and for medical research having defense value, are provided by Congressional appropriation.

NRLB Report
On Rural Lands

The National Resources Planning Board has issued a report, Land Classification in the United States, says Planning and Civic Comment (April-June). In it, the necessity for classification surveys is emphasized, to determine uses of crops, forests, cities, pasture, recreation, etc. The report was based on a study by the land committee of the board and constitutes the first comprehensive summary of the status, methods, and areal coverage of rural land classification in the U. S.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 9.

Section 1

July 14, 1941.

1941 WHEAT LOANS:

QUOTAS RETURNS;

RUST DAMAGE

The Department today announced that loans on excess wheat under marketing-quota provisions will be extended to April 30, 1943. This will affect wheat stored on farms or in approved warehouses. The present maturity date on all 1941 loans is April 30, 1942. The provisions permit farmers to store excess wheat, postponing payment of the 49-cent per bushel penalty at this time. Next year it will be possible to market this wheat without penalty, provided the acreage allotment is underplanted or the producer suffers a crop loss. Producers storing excess wheat on farms are entitled to 7 cents per bushel on such wheat as a storage allowance at the maturity of the 1941 loan, April 30, 1942. Where farm storage loans are extended for another year, the producer would be entitled to a further allowance of 5 cents per bushel, making a 12-cent allowance for storage up to April 30, 1943.

Results of the wheat-marketing quota referendum held May 31 were announced today by the Department. Of 559,630 wheat farmers who voted in 40 States, 453,569, or 81 percent, favored marketing quotas, and 106,061, or 19 percent, opposed quotas. Approval of two-thirds was necessary to put quotas into effect.

In general, winter wheat has escaped extensive damage from stem rust this year, E & PQ says. With winter wheat either harvested or rapidly approaching maturity as far north as northern Kansas and Missouri, all but very late fields are safe from further damage from rust. Aggregate losses in Texas and Oklahoma will not be great, although severe damage has occurred in limited areas of north-central Texas, eastern Oklahoma, and southeastern Kansas.

COTTON STORAGE

RATES ANNOUNCED

The Department has announced warehousing rates for 1941 loan cotton and old stocks of cotton held by the Government. The maximum rates for 1941 cotton are 17-1/2 cents per bale per month for warehouses that do not operate compress facilities and 15 cents for warehouses operating compress facilities. In addition warehouses may collect from producers service charges for receiving, sampling, and delivering of not over 25 cents per bale, and for reweighing and resampling of 10 cents per bale.

Wool Labeling
Law Effective

The new wool products labeling act, which goes into effect July 14, requires that any product which contains wool, except carpets, rugs, mats, and upholstery fabrics, must bear a label giving the percentage of new wool, reprocessed wool, and reused wool, says the Baltimore Sun, July 10. In the course of a year, it is estimated by the Textile Economics Bureau, 265,000,000 pounds of new or virgin wool, 10,000,000 pounds of reprocessed wool, and 75,000,000 pounds of reused fabric, are used. Administration of the new act will be under the Federal Trade Commission.

Economics
In Defense

Defense requires from our economy materials, morale, economic defense, and wise fiscal policies, says Mordecai Ezekiel, Office of the Secretary, writing on economic implications of defense, in The Annals for July. We are just starting to put our tremendous industrial power behind that effort. We will proceed to call on all our energies in that effort. Even while we gird our loins for defense, we must give thought to the future as well. Only so can we assure all our citizens that the fight is worth the effort; that we intend to win the peace as well as help England win the war, he says. This issue of The Annals is devoted to articles on "Defending America's Future."

Colorado Trees
For Iceland

Ten pounds of corkbark fir seed, extracted from cones gathered in the Alpine District of the Uncompahgre National Forest in Colorado, were sent some months ago to the Iceland Forestry Service, says Jacob Jauch, of the FS, in July Journal of Forestry. This is enough seed to plant about 125 acres at the rate of 907 trees to the acre, allowing for 25 percent germination. It was the second shipment of tree seed to Iceland from this National Forest; the first, Engelmann spruce seeds, were sent in 1939. Though Americans may visualize Iceland as a cold and barren country, the climate along the coastal region is favorable to plant life, says Jauch.

Americas
Agriculture
Society

The American Society of Agricultural Sciences, an organization of agricultural workers in the Americas, recently elected Earl N. Bressman and Edwin R. Kinnear of the Department as president and secretary of the United States Section, says July Agriculture in the Americas. The society also arranged to publish a quarterly publication in Spanish, with Philip L. Green, of FAR, as editor. The society now has chapters in Argentina, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Panama, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and the United States. Its president is E. G. Holt of the Department.

New Experiment
Station For
Ecuador

To spur the production in Ecuador of non-competitive crops for export to the United States, Arthur G. Kevorkian has been employed, on recommendation of the U. S. State Department, to aid the Ecuadorian Ministry of Agriculture in establishing an agricultural experiment station, says Agriculture in the Americas, July. Kevorkian, a U.S.D.A. plant pathologist, has been with the Federal Experiment Station in Puerto Rico the last four years.

Tung Oil
Industry

What Dr. Henry G. Knight observes about the new tung oil industry in June Manufacturers Record is as promising as our observations of the condition and growth of the orchards along the coast, says the New Orleans Times-Picayune, July 3. Six States, Knight notes, are beginning to benefit from the new cash crop of oil in the growing-grinding season just closed. The American market uses much more oil than the South produced this season and there is every prospect that demand will continue to increase except for the possible development of a satisfactory cheap synthetic drying oil. Dr. Knight thinks present investigations will result in better growing and milling methods. What the practical farmer is most concerned with is the sensitiveness of the blossoms to cold which, unless hardier varieties can be developed, may cause the loss of the tung crop.

Cotton Stamp
Program

Dallas News, July 2, commenting on the cotton stamp plan, says although this program can hardly be viewed as a permanent solution to the cotton problem, it will put an appreciable part of the current surplus to practical use. In addition to helping cotton growers by reducing the surplus and giving them cotton goods, the plan helps textile manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers by increasing their business. For hundreds of thousands in the Cotton Belt, it will mean a higher notch in the standard of living, says the News.

July Wool
Situation

Mill consumption of wool in the United States has been at record levels in recent months, and imports of apparel wool have been the largest in at least 20 years, BAE reports. Present indications are that mill consumption will continue large during the remainder of 1941, but no material change in domestic prices is expected during the next few months. Reports indicate that most mills have already purchased domestic and foreign wool for their needs for the next several months. The major part of the 1941 domestic clip has already been sold by producers.

Chile To
Control Exports

A Santiago cable to the New York Times, July 11, says the Chilean Congress has passed a law for government control of exports for three years. This is Chile's first emergency measure on international trade. The President is empowered to prohibit the export of all merchandise of Chilean or foreign manufacture.

Consumer
Goods Supply

Reduction of the styles, models, and colors available to the public shopping for consumer goods was predicted recently by Miss Harriett Elliott, consumer adviser in OPM, addressing the opening session of the New York State Nutrition Conference, says the New York Times, July 11. To defend democracy, Miss Elliott declared we must see that the burden of the necessary sacrifices do not all fall on those already struggling to maintain a level of living for their families consistent with the country's national resources, democratic purposes, and democratic faith.

Airplane-Dusting
For Cotton Insects

E & PQ has just issued a circular (E-543) reporting the results of airplane dusting last year in Arizona for sucking bugs which attack cotton. The plane-dusting experiments showed that growers can get reasonable profits from dusting long and short staple varieties of cotton with a mixture of 7 1/2 percent paris green and 92 1/2 percent dusting sulfur. Hand and power machinery have not been entirely satisfactory for large-scale commercial dusting in Arizona for reasons such as irrigation schedules, rank growth of cotton and sudden insect migrations.

Botanical Drugs
May Be Scarce

The only drugs of which supplies in this country may run short if war in Europe is prolonged are those obtained from certain plants, according to a report by S. DeWitt Clough, president of a pharmaceutical laboratory, says Medical Record, July 2. The botanical drugs of which there is some danger of a shortage include belladonna and scopolamine. There is a growing scarcity of belladonna root and hyoscyamus, a source of scopolamine, the report says. Club women in New York State have been growing medicinal herbs, concentrating on three best suited to the climate. Of the three, the most important is Datura stramonium, commonly known as jimson weed. The leaves and flowers contain atropine and hyoscyamine. Second is Digitalis purpurea, or foxglove, which has been used medicinally in this country since 1820, and the third is Delphinium ajacis, the annual larkspur, used in the form of ointment to destroy parasites. This venture is probably only the beginning of extended efforts to cultivate medicinal herbs in greater proportion, says the publication.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 10.

Section 1

July 15, 1941.

LEND-LEASE GOODS
NOT REEXPORTED,
SAYS J.M. KEYNES

Answering charges made by New York exporters, the British Government reiterated yesterday that no lend-lease goods received from the United States have been reexported to South America, says the Washington Post, July 15. The statement was made by John Maynard Keynes, British economist who is advising the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Discussing forthcoming shipments of 20,000 bales a month of lend-lease cotton to Britain, Keynes said some of it might be reexported to Latin American markets in the form of British-made textiles. Great Britain, while sacrificing much export trade, is trying to maintain textile shipments because their manufacture employs female labor and they take little shipping space, he said.

EMBARGO ON
WHEAT FOR
K.C. STORAGE

An immediate embargo on all wheat consigned to Kansas City for storage was declared yesterday by executives of 10 trunk-line railroads, says an AP report to the New York Times, July 15. L. M. Betts, manager of the car service division of the American Railways Associations, said notices were being sent that no wheat will be accepted for consignment to the Kansas City market for storage because of inadequate space in greater Kansas City elevators.

R.R. EQUIPMENT
INADEQUATE
SAYS BUDD

Ralph Budd, transportation member of the National Defense Advisory Commission, said yesterday that the railroads' equipment expansion program is falling down because needed materials cannot be obtained, says an AP report from Chicago to the New York Times, July 15. He also said the average freight car is in transit only about 10 percent of the time and suggested that through faster loading and unloading of cars their carrying capacity could be increased as much as 25 percent.

SENATE PASSES
PROMOTION BILL

The Senate yesterday unanimously approved the uniform promotion bill for Federal Civil Service employees, says the Washington Post, July 15. The bill now goes to conference for minor Senate amendments. The House previously gave the bill its unanimous support. The plan was drafted by the Budget Bureau last fall at the request of the House Appropriations Committee.

Ezekiel Addresses
Social Institute

Discussing "Employment for Men and Money After the War Boom," at the Summer Institute for Social Progress at Wellesley College, Mordecai Ezekiel, economic adviser to the Secretary of Agriculture, declared recently "we can so reshape our economy, through democracy and under modified capitalism, that we can keep production and consumption at top levels." Production, he believed, can be kept at high levels by breaking up monopolies and creating competition, which device will be useful only "in a limited field;" by teaching business how to use cost reductions achieved through technological advances to lower prices instead of piling up financial surpluses, and by other forms of long-range economic planning which might include "a deliberate attempt to produce more all around by forced price reductions," even though; for a short time, this might involve the taking over of industrial surpluses by the government. (New York Times, July 12.)

Puerto Rican
Land Law
Injunction

A San Juan cable to the New York Times, July 12, says Judge R. A. Cooper granted a preliminary injunction to Luce & Company, to prevent operation of Puerto Rico's new land law which went into effect July 12. The law establishes an agrarian policy extending to partnerships and all "artificial" persons the restriction fixed by Congress in 1900 limiting corporate land ownership to 500 acres. Luce & Company is an island-limited partnership. Its lands have an assessed value of \$7,800,000 and its growing crops for 1942 harvest have an estimated value of \$5,440,000. An attempt to harvest the present growing crop would violate the 1937 Sugar Act, the court order stated. The case will be heard August 5.

Army To Get
Boneless Beef

Awards have been let to two companies for 6,567,000 pounds of fresh frozen boneless beef for the Army, says an AP report in the Washington Post, July 12. Officials of the quartermaster depot said the fresh boneless beef was purchased instead of the former quarter of beef because it is 30 percent lighter in weight and when packed takes up 60 to 70 percent less space.

Plastics
Association

An association for utilizing plastics for defense purposes has been formed, says News Edition (A.C.S.), July 10. Known as the Plastics Materials Manufacturers Association, the new organization is an outgrowth of the Cellulose Plastics Manufacturers Association, and has headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Grasses For The
Great Plains

Though blue grama is one of the best grasses in North Dakota, the State is seeking other good varieties, says the Bismark Tribune, July 3.

Intensive search for new grasses has been carried on at field stations and in experimental plots throughout the Great Plains. At Mandan, N. Dak., hundreds of strains are being tested, new strains developed, and old ones improved. Crested wheatgrass is recommended because it is easier to establish and more productive than other grasses tested. Grasses for the Great Plains must withstand heat, cold, and drought. The Mandan station -- said G. A. Rogler, BPI agronomist at the station -- has the highest mortality rate (for grasses) in the country because of the wide range of climate.

Poison Hemlock
In Oregon

A relatively new poison plant has invaded many parts of Oregon and constitutes a menace to those who may not recognize it, says Dr.

Helen Gilkey, curator of the herbarium at Oregon State College. The plant is known by various names such as poison hemlock, wild parsley, or wild parsnip, though it is not the familiar large-leaved wild parsnip. Since 1933 this plant has been reported from almost all sections of western Oregon. Dr. Gilkey reports that the biennial plant is poisonous to stock as well as humans and may cause trouble in hay. (Oregonian, July 6.)

Farm Aid For
West Indies

A plan of agricultural and social reform for the British West Indies, sponsored by the British Government on recommendation of the West Indies Royal Commission of 1933-39 is discussed in correspondence from Trinidad to the Christian Science Monitor, July 1. This new colonial policy, it says, includes the establishment of peasant holdings, mixed subsistence farming, education suited to local needs, better housing, better health services, and other activities designed to place the working classes on a basis of economic independence.

Poppy Seeds
As Oil Source

Poppy seeds are assuming new importance in Great Britain, says an article in Food Manufacture (London, May 2) owing to their high yield of edible oil. The oil, after cold expression and refinement, should find a ready market among manufacturers of food products, while oil from a second hot pressing could be absorbed by soap manufacturers. Made into a paste with honey, poppy seeds form an excellent filling for pastry. Sprinkled on bread and marmalade or jam, the seeds might take the place of butter or margarine. Oil from poppy seeds would supply the need for a home-grown salad oil, equal in dietetic value to olive or arachis oil. Poppy-seed oil has a pleasant, nutty flavor.

Future Railroad
Requirements

Future railroad requirements are difficult to forecast, says United States News, July 18. The Association of American Railroads, for example, believes that 120,000 new freight cars in 1942 and 150,000 more in 1943 will meet probable traffic demands. These demands are placed at less than 41,000,000 carloadings this year; 43,680,000 next year and 48,048,000 in 1943. Other authorities believe that traffic during the next six months will be 25 percent greater than in the last half of 1940. If this estimate is correct, total carloadings will be nearer 44,000,000 than A.A.R. estimates of 41,000,000. Water transportation is complicating the railroad problem. While inland waterways probably can increase tonnages, the reduction of ships in coastal service adds to railway burdens.

Concentrated
Feeds Short
In Britain

Writing on the shortage of concentrated foodstuffs in Great Britain, E. Walford Lloyd, in The Field (England, May 17) says he believes British farmers have paid too much attention to feeding concentrates to cattle, sheep, and pigs. We shall have to feed livestock in a far simpler way than we have been doing for the last 30 years, he says. The great thing is to keep the land fertile, in order that, even after the war, our land may not be farmed out. Grazing land--under grass for hundreds of years, accustomed to being grazed by cake-fed cattle, enriching the land and the grass--will feel the loss of this type of grazing, and, unless something is done to keep up fertility, it will be lost to the country.

Record Demand
For Farm
Equipment

Last year was good in the farm-equipment industry and 1941 is running about 20 percent above 1940, says Business Week, July 12. Most farm-equipment companies have plenty of basic materials because they usually order these more than a year in advance. Exceptions are aluminum and scarce alloys. An unusual number of tractors is going to farms not previously mechanized, the industry reports. Combines have been booming as a continuation of the trend that started two years ago. Farm-tire sales in 1941 are running ahead of 1940 total sales. Unquestionably, far-sighted farmers are preparing for farm-labor shortages by increasing their use of machinery.

Calif. Blister
Rust Funds

An appropriation of \$50,000 for fighting white-pine blister rust in State and private forests was approved this month by Governor Olson of California, says a report in American Lumberman, July 12. The money is to be spent by the State Division of Forestry in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

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Section 1

July 16, 1941.

SHIP WARRANTS ACT SIGNED

President Roosevelt has signed the Ship Warrants Act authorizing the Maritime Commission to grant preferences for the use of shore facilities to ships cooperating with the national defense program, says the New York Times, July 16. Foreign vessels using American ports are included. One provision of the law gives the commission control over charges for carrying defense materials and those intended for public consumption. Leon Henderson, OPACS Administrator, has cited increases in ocean freight charges as a major uncontrolled factor tending to increase living costs.

ICC EMPOWERED TO EXPEDITE FREIGHT MOVEMENT

The Interstate Commerce Commission is ready to use its emergency powers to expedite loading, unloading, movement, and routing of railroad freight whenever it becomes apparent that the transportation system of the country is bogging down because of national defense requirements or other factors, Chairman Joseph B. Eastman, said yesterday. Under the second deficiency appropriations bill, the commission received a substantial sum with which to expand its Bureau of Service, and is recruiting trained personnel for field work to speed up car movements throughout the country. (N.Y. Journal of Commerce, July 16.)

PRESIDENT ASKS OFFICE BUILDING PROGRAM

President Roosevelt yesterday asked Congress to appropriate \$6,500,000 for a new defense office building program in Washington suburbs as the House voted overwhelming against naming a committee of its own members with power to draft legislation to transfer Federal agencies to other cities, says the Washington Post, July 16. Congress was told the new buildings would be erected on Government-owned land near Beltsville, Suitland, and Bethesda, Maryland, and in nearby Virginia.

CCC ISSUE OVERSUBSCRIBED

The Treasury announced yesterday that the \$400,000,000 worth of 1 1/8 percent notes, Series G, of the Commodity Credit Corporation, issued last week, had been oversubscribed by almost \$5,000,000. (New York Times, July 16.)

Mexican
Irrigation
Program

Great reservoirs of water and vast networks of irrigation canals are appearing in Mexican deserts from Sonora to Tehuantepec, says Edward C. Higbee, SCS, in Southwestern Sheep & Goat Raiser, July. The program, for which 55 million pesos was allotted this year, means the irrigation of more than 3,000,000 acres for 120,000 Mexican farm families. The Comision Nacional de Irrigacion compares with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, SCS, REA, and FSA. In Mexico, as in the United States, farm aid comes in response to appeals of farmers through their democratic organizations. The work of the Mexican irrigation commission includes erosion-control and soil-conservation practices, establishment of experimental farms and laboratories, resettlement of farm families on newly irrigated lands, building roads, draining swamps, and founding whole new agricultural communities.

Fish-Liver
Oil Supply

The domestic fish-liver oil business, heretofore generally regarded as an unprofitable sideline, is going to town, says Business Week, July 12. Now that the war has cut off Scandinavian cod-liver oil supplies, producers of vitamin concentrates are looking around for sources of vitamins A and D, usually supplied abundantly and cheaply by the common cod. Shark-liver oil is partly replacing the cod-liver oil supply cut off by war conditions.

New Colombian
Chemical Plant

According to a contract recently signed between the Colombian Government, the Banco Central and Instituto de Fomento Industrial, a new chemical plant will be built for manufacturing sodium chlorate derivatives such as caustic soda used in soap making, carbonate and bicarbonate of soda, says Pan American News, July 3. It will be completed within two years, the Government advancing up to 800,000 pesos to defray organization and construction costs. A small chemical industry already exists in Colombia, based primarily on the preparation of certain pharmaceuticals and toilet articles.

Latin Trade
Arbitration

A clearing house to sift hemisphere trade complaints was established in New York this month by the Inter-American Commercial Arbitration Commission, says Business Week, July 12. The organization, to be known as the Inter-American Business Relations Committee, will be headed by Kenneth H. Campbell. Other members of the 13-man committee are exporters, importers, trade-association executives, and trade-press publishers.

Pear Psylla
In Northwest

Due to finding the pear psylla at Loomis, Washington, about 11 miles south of the Canadian boundary, the British Columbia Division of Plant Protection is making a survey of pear and quince trees in the southern Okanagan, Boundary, and Kootenay districts, says Country Life in B.C., July. Cooperation has been received by the division from the U.S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, through J. F. Cooper, in charge of pear-psylla eradication in Washington and Idaho, the publication says.

Australian
Process Reduces
Wool Shrinkage

The Division of Animal Health and Nutrition of the Australian Scientific and Industrial Research Council has been developing a process for making wool unshrinkable, says News Edition (A.C.S.), July 10. This process, known as the Freney-Lipson method, involves treatment of wool by alkali, the most promising reagents being solutions of potassium or sodium hydroxide in ethyl alcohol which contains a small percentage of water. Results of wearing and washing tests on garments made of wool treated by the Freney-Lipson process indicate commercial possibilities and justify continued investigations.

Soviet May
Get Crops From
Argentina

The Amtorg Trading Corporation, which recently transferred a number of its commodity experts from the United States to South America, has been assured by Argentina that there will be no objection to Russian buying of surplus crops as long as ample cash and shipping facilities are provided, says Pan American News, July 3. Now that the Soviet Union is threatened with loss of the wheat fields of the Ukraine, Russian demand may offer a partial solution to Argentina's No. 1 problem, accumulation of grain surpluses.

Methyl Bromide
Harmless As Used
on Foodstuffs

Reporting studies on foodstuffs fumigated with methyl bromide, four members of the Public Health Service, in Pests, July, say "it seems unlikely that the small amount of methyl bromide or bromide residues on commercially fumigated fresh vegetables and fruits, or dried fruits, is harmful to the consumer." The PHS men say they had the cooperation of L. A. Hawkins, chief of the division of control investigations, E & PQ, in the studies, which have been described in an issue of Public Health Reports.

Civil Service
Examinations

No. 102, unassembled--principal industrial specialist, \$5,600; senior industrial specialist, \$4,600; industrial specialist, \$3,800; associate industrial specialist, \$3,200; assistant industrial specialist, \$2,600. No. 101, unassembled--farmer-fieldman, \$2,600, AAA. Closing application dates, Aug. 7.

Lee A. Strong

Pests, July, in an editorial on the late Lee A. Strong, says: "It was perhaps symbolical that he should have died while in action in the field warring on pests -- a campaign that he brilliantly conducted for three decades... He rendered invaluable cooperation to the National Pest Control Association, manifested by his personal attendance and willingness to provide pertinent information in connection with research... He was instrumental in large measure in attaining greater industry recognition from the entire field of entomology."

Grazing Service
Moves To Utah

Secretary Ickes has announced that headquarters of the Grazing Service of the Interior Department will be transferred from Washington to Salt Lake City, Utah, says the Washington Post, July 13. The shift is one of the first steps in Washington to make room for more defense agencies.

Device For
Meat Stamping

The National Provisioner, July 12, describes a new ink-branding device said to meet requirements of the new labeling and ingredient regulations issued by BAI, effective October 1. The device is suitable for labeling a large percentage of meats marketed in casings and for listing ingredients regardless of formula changes. Similar information on aids to simplify compliance with the new regulations will appear as they are developed, says the Provisioner.

New Uses For
Shark Leather

New uses for shark leather are opened up by a recently patented tanning process, says Hide and Leather and Shoes, July 12. For many centuries, shark leather has been in limited use in a rough form, without removal of the shagreen, the term applied to the hard plates comprising the outer armor of the shark. By the new process the shagreen is removed, leaving a finely grained, pliable leather which retains the original strength of the hide. The grain of shark leather is natural and will not pull or wear out. The tanning process, used in a plant at Newark, N. J., takes about a month. The leather is used for shoes, luggage, belts, wallets, bookbinding, industrial leathers, and other leather goods.

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Section 1

July 17, 1941.

SOVIET RATIONS FOOD IN MOSCOW

A UP report from Moscow in the N. Y. Herald Tribune, July 17, says the Soviet Council yesterday ordered immediate rationing of foods and manufactured goods for the 4,200,000 residents of the capital. Cards will be issued limiting, but in generous amounts, purchases of meat, bread, cereals, sugar, butter, fish, dry goods, leather goods, and manufactured wares. A Government decree also limited the amount of goods which may be purchased at state stores without coupons at higher than usual prices.

WHEAT, FLOUR EXPORT PROGRAMS TO CONTINUE

The Department announced yesterday continuation into 1941-42 of the Wheat Flour Export Program, of July 2, 1940, and of the Wheat Export Program of January 30, 1941, designed to encourage exportation of flour manufactured from U. S. wheat and of wheat produced in this country. Payments at rates announced from day to day will be made on flour exported from continental United States ports to the Philippine Islands, Virgin Islands, any country or place in the Americas and adjacent islands except Puerto Rico, Alaska, and the Canal Zone, and to islands east of the Americas on or west of 40° west longitude.

FOOD CONTROL IN JAPAN MORE STRICT

A Tokyo report by the AP in the New York Times, July 17, says such foodstuffs as rice, sugar, and cooking oil, already strictly rationed in Japan, will go under even more drastic control in the near future, according to Domei, Japanese news agency. A plan under consideration by the Agriculture and Forestry ministries includes government monopoly over sale of important foodstuffs, storage of staple foods; diversion of canned goods from foreign trade into domestic channels, increased livestock feed, and increased domestic fertilizers.

ADVISES CONSUMER CREDIT REGULATION

Government regulation of consumer credit was advocated by Dr. Rolf Nugent, consultant in this field for OPACS, and director of the department of consumer studies at the Russell Sage Foundation, in an address yesterday to the National Retail Furniture Association, says a Chicago report to the N.Y. Herald Tribune, July 17. Nugent said cooperation of industry in restricting consumer credit and installment selling is desirable, but industry alone cannot do the job and attempts to govern credit might be construed as violation of the antitrust act.

Gardening
Publications

Real Gardening, which for three years has operated as a non-advertising garden monthly, has been merged with the Gardeners' Chronicle of America, which for 36 years has been the professional gardeners' paper and for 10 years the official organ of the National Association of Gardeners. (Florists Exchange, July 12.)

1941 Standards
List Issued

The American Standards Association has announced the publication of a new list of American standards for 1941. More than 400 standards are listed, reaching every important engineering field and serving as a basis for many municipal, State, and Federal regulations. It is available free from the association, 29 West 39th Street, New York City. (Science, July 11.)

Boron For
Western
Alfalfa

A minor amount of boron is a major factor in plant nutrition over wide areas of the Pacific Northwest, says W. L. Powers, of Oregon State College, in Better Crops With Plant Food, June-July. Use of boron as a fertilizer for alfalfa west of the Cascade Mountains promises to be as profitable as sulfur has been on the more arid basaltic soils to the east. There are now some 50,000 acres of alfalfa in the Willamette Valley that will yield 1/2 to 1 ton more an acre from the borax treatment which costs about \$1 an acre for a 30-pound application.

Trichinosis
Report By PHS

A 4-year study by the zoology division of the Public Health Service, the third and final report on the distribution of trichinosis in the United States, has recently been issued, says the A.M.A. Journal, July 12. The report deals with cases from the hospitals of Washington, D. C., and five Atlantic seaboard cities. The material from Washington — where one-sixth of the population carries the trichonosis parasite — is considered representative of the general population in the country. The infestation is believe to be less in rural areas, and a survey of these areas is now being made by the zoology division of the National Institute of Health.

Retired Botanist
Breeds Fruits

Dr. W. F. Wight, fruit-tree breeder, formerly of the Department of Agriculture and now retired on a ranch in San Diego County, reports that he is working on three new cling peaches and one nectarine that may be introduced to growers in the near future, says Pacific Rural Press, July 12.

Flax Fiber
Plant Makes
Cigaret Paper

A \$300,000 flax-fiber decortivating plant at Helm, California, is the result of experiments by a fiber company in the use of flax fiber for cigaret paper, says California Cultivator, July 12. Decortication is stripping off the bark, or fiber, from the outside of the straw. It was necessary to devise machinery that would break up the straw and separate it from the fiber threads. War conditions have cut off the supply of cigaret paper formerly imported from France.

Caribbean
Economic
Survey

An economic federation of the islands of the Caribbean has been proposed to President Roosevelt as part of a broad program to help Caribbean people meet the effects of war, says a UP report in the New York Times, July 16. The plan, drafted by Administration experts, urges Anglo-American collaboration. Charles Taussig was assigned to survey conditions in the islands. Rexford G. Tugwell has been working similarly in Puerto Rico, having been asked by Secretary Ickes to study a land-distribution program for that island. All the islands are economically dependent on agricultural exports, much of them to Europe, and shortage of shipping space and control of British imports have deprived most of them of their major sources of livelihood. The experts advocate a customs union between the islands and the United States and Britain, respectively. Products from the islands would be stored for shipment when cargo space becomes available, and under favorable tariff conditions, Britain and the United States would contribute to a loan fund to finance the program.

June Egg
Production
Over 4 Billion

The unusually favorable position of the poultry industry is reflected in the June output of over 4 billion eggs, the Department says. This production, the largest for the month since 1930, is attributed to the record lay -- over 15 eggs per hen. The number of layers in farm flocks was slightly fewer than in June last year. Relationship between egg prices and feed has stimulated egg production. Prices received by farmers for eggs on June 15 averaged 23.2 cents per dozen--the highest for the month in 12 years. But the average cost of a farm poultry ration on June 15 was at moderate levels--\$1.33 per 100 pounds. At these prices it required only 5.72 dozen eggs to buy 100 pounds of ration, compared with 8.45 dozen last year, and the 1930-39 June average of 7.67 dozen.

Farm Truck
Exemption

Governor Saltonstall of Massachusetts has signed a bill to permit farm trucks to operate on the highway for a half mile between parts of the same farm without registration, says New England Homestead, July 12. There are many farms in this State cut in two by a road, in some cases by two or three roads, and heretofore farmers have been prevented from crossing to their fields without registering trucks. The new law, however, does not relieve farmers of responsibility in case of accident.

Shorthorns For
Dominican
Republic

Fifty-three head of purebred Shorthorns, the largest consignment ever bought for export from the United States by a single purchaser, was shipped last month to the Dominican Republic, says Indiana Farmers Guide, July 12. The cattle represent an investment of \$15,000 and were bought by General Trujillo for his own herd and the Republic's livestock-improvement program. The shippers were 25 leading Shorthorn breeders in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.

Pilot Plants
Test Research
Findings

Writing on the Department regional research laboratories, C. E. Hughes, assistant editor of Indiana Farmers Guide, July 12, says "to shorten the gap between test-tube discoveries and commercial production," these new laboratories are establishing what are called pilot plants. Actually, they are small commercial plants, but large enough so the scientist may check on his laboratory findings before they are turned over to industry. The northern laboratory was occupied in December 1940, and by next fall or early winter special processing equipment for the industrial wing or pilot plant will be in operation.

"Friends Of
The Land"
To Meet.

That the land needs friends must have been the guiding principle of a widespread group of public spirited people of widely varying political and social thought when they organized the Friends of the Land, which organization is to hold a conference in Columbus July 18, says an editorial in Ohio Farmer, July 12. Certainly the caliber of the speakers and sponsors guarantee an interesting meeting. Speakers will include H. H. Bennett, Chief of the SCS, and Earle Clapp, acting chief of the FS.

Anthraxnose
Hits Flax

Anthraxnose is showing up on California flax for the first time, causing as much as 40 to 50 percent loss this year in some areas of the San Joaquin and Imperial Valley, says Pacific Rural Press, July 12. Plant pathologists at the University of California state that prolonged damp weather undoubtedly encouraged growth of the fungus, and believe the disease has been present in other years to a minor degree but was not noticed. It is hoped seed treatment will control it. The pathologists are trying to determine whether the disease is carried in the soil.

Calif. Fog-Spray
Tests Promising

Results to date from fog-spray tests in the San Joaquin Valley on vineyards affected with little-leaf indicate that this economical method of applying zinc solution has promise, says Pacific Rural Press, July 12. Vines that showed definite little-leaf symptoms in May now show considerable improvement. If the fog-spray treatment will protect the vines for a full season, it may replace spur painting, and offer a practical treatment for Thompson Seedless, which does not respond to wound painting.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 13.

Section 1

July 18, 1941.

PRESIDENT ORDERS TRADING BLACKLIST

President Roosevelt issued a proclamation yesterday making official a list of 1,800 Latin American firms and individuals believed to be acting in the interest of Germany or Italy, says the New York Times, July 18. The list, which was made public, contains the names of many internationally known firms. The proclamation, regarded as putting on an all-out basis the economic efforts of the United States to clear Latin American republics of American-financed Axis propaganda and of Axis trade ties, contained an extension to all the black-listed entities of the President's order of June 14 freezing the assets of any Continental European nation, or national thereof, situated in the United States.

MAY EXPORTS CONTINUE AT HIGH LEVEL

Despite apparent reduction in shipping space available in the North Atlantic, exports reached the same high total for May as in April, the Department of Commerce reported yesterday.

Exports, including re-exports, were valued at \$385,000,000 in both April and May, about 20 percent above the average of the preceding 12 months and of the same 1940 period. Foodstuffs as a group increased in 1941 from \$18,300,000 in April to \$25,300,000 in May, dairy products valued at \$4,500,000 being double the April total and nearly five times greater than in May 1940. Exports of dried fruits, at \$1,460,000, were treble the April figure and nearly 7 times greater than a year ago. (N.Y. Journal of Commerce, July 18.)

OPACS TO RATION BURLAP SUPPLIES

Allocation of shipping space for the importation of burlap, and rationing of supplies among domestic users is to be worked out by the Civilian Supply Allocation Division of OPACS, it was reported yesterday. This was the most important development to follow price agency meetings yesterday with burlap importers, bag makers, and cotton and rayon trade representatives. (N.Y. Journal of Commerce, July 18.)

Section 2

Post-War
Planning

The July issue of Land Policy Review (BAE) is devoted to "When Peace Comes: Planning for Post-War Agriculture." Readers of the Review are invited to write letters to the editor, giving their views on what we should work toward in post-war American agriculture; the problem and the solution, if any. Copies of the publication are available from the Division of Economic Information, BAE.

Three Electric
Fence Codes

There are now three codes on electric fences, says Better Farms, July 15, those of the Industrial Commission of Wisconsin, U. S. Bureau of Standards, and National Board of Fire Underwriters.

Dietary
Protein
Substitutes

Writing on chemical substitutes for dietary protein, in Nature (London, May 3) R. Benesch, agricultural department, University of Leeds, says the problem of finding substitutes for dietary protein in the form of simple nitrogenous compounds of a nonprotein nature, capable of industrial synthesis, opens up new possibilities in wartime economy. Under war conditions it is essential to feed for production purposes, substances that can be produced synthetically at home at a reasonable price. These "amides," however, have to be fed in conjunction with suitable foods. This problem has been largely solved in Germany, where four preparations are manufactured industrially; dried beet slices with urea solution; molassed bran with addition of urea; linseed meal with urea; and potato flakes with urea.

Rust-Resistant
Antirrhinum

D. E. Green recently reported progress in selection of rust-resistant strains of antirrhinum (J. Roy. Hort. Soc. 66, pt. 3), says Nature (London, May 17). Resistant forms were obtained from the United States but were not florally desirable; the problem was to select parent forms with colors suitable for decorative combinations. This has been accomplished and five rust-resistant strains have been established. It is not yet known if they are resistant to a second race of the parasite that has appeared in the United States.

Device Saves
Fuel For
Oil Burners

A saving of more than one-eighth in the amount of fuel oil used in heating homes can be made by adjustment of the burner with a "flue gas analyzer," an inexpensive instrument, that can be operated successfully by the average service man, says the Department. Since the majority of the 2,000,000 house-heating oil burners are east of the Alleghenies, this new economy can help solve a defense problem where there is most likelihood of oil shortage. Studies of oil burners by AC & E show the relative amounts of air and oil supplied to the fire greatly affect burner efficiency and fuel consumption.

Reserve Feed
Program For
Northeast

The Department has announced a plan to store reserve supplies of milled feed on Northeast farms, to aid efforts to increase dairy, poultry, and livestock production for national defense. The CCC and FCA are making arrangements with farmer cooperatives in the Northeast whereby grain owned by the CCC will be sold to cooperatives for milling. The cooperatives will store the milled feeds on farms of members under an arrangement protecting them against price declines. The feed is to be owned by the cooperative and the farmers agree to maintain reserve supplies continuing to purchase their usual feed requirements.

Heating
Beehives

The British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association has issued a preliminary report on heating beehives, says Nature (London, May 3). It also describes the construction and testing of units for keeping beehives at a required temperature. The heat required by a colony of bees is produced by the consumption of honey, an expensive fuel which might be helped and controlled to advantage by the use of electricity. Twenty-four heating units are being built for the Rothamsted Experimental Station, where they will be used with and without thermostatic control next winter.

N. Y. Report On
Trichinosis

Under the title, Meat for Millions, the N.Y. State Trichinosis Commission has issued a report on the disease in New York State. The commission recommends three main lines of attack: legislative measures to prevent feeding of uncooked garbage to hogs; establishment of a State meat inspection service; and investigation of the possibility of a trichinosis skin test for hogs. (American Journal of Public Health, July.)

U. S. Power
Expansion

A 4-year program for expansion of the nation's power supply, costing an estimated \$1,880,000,000 and adequate to cope with the load to be created by the growing defense effort, has been submitted to President Roosevelt by the Federal Power Commission, says the N. Y. Herald Tribune, July 17. This means a defense load of 20,000,000 kilowatts, of which 11,000,000 is assumed to represent displacement of normal load.

Fats and Oils
Situation

Production of fats and oils from domestic materials in 1941 is expected to be slightly larger than the record output in 1940, says BAE. Decreases in production of lard and greases probably will be more than offset by increased production of butter, tallow, cottonseed oil, peanut oil, linseed oil, and certain other vegetable oils.

Hops Come
Back in N. Y.

Hop growing is coming back in New York State, says an article in Better Farms, July 15. Near Bridgewater, in Madison County, the first large-scale hop farm is being developed, and near Waterville the experimental hop yard of the State Experiment Station is breeding better varieties. Hop roots, to be set out in late summer are being brought from the State of Washington, which, with Oregon and California, last year produced 217,000 bales of hops. The roots from Washington are the hybridized seedless variety, says the article.

Child Health In
Rural Areas

The greatest need for supervision of child health exists in rural communities, says Amos Christie, Department of Pediatrics, University of California, in American Journal of Public Health, July. Studies have shown that only 37 percent of pre-school children in these areas have had even a single health examination, though at least 51 percent of urban children have had this advantage. Maternal and child health directors and county health officers have an abundant supply of written material outlining objectives of child-health supervision, but the pediatrician, the health educator, and the public health nurse must work harder with the general practitioner to put them into practice, he says.

Rodent Damage
To Seedings

A survey of rodent damage to seedlings in areas planted by the Soil Conservation Service in southeastern Minnesota showed that tree species, density of cover, slope direction, and past land use are the principal factors that influence damage by mice and rabbits, says Lansing A. Parker, formerly with the SCS in Minnesota, in the Journal of Wildlife Management, July. Lansing adopted a method of sampling the tree plantations to determine the extent of damage and how it was affected by ecological factors, the method being a modification of the standard SCS method for making tree-survival counts.

Retail Food
Prices Up

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported that retail food prices increased 3.7 percent between mid-May and mid-June. The greatest increases were for pork and lamb, lard and other shortenings, eggs, onions, potatoes, and apples. Food costs rose 7.7 percent over June last year, the bureau said, with the greatest increases in prices for pork and pork products. (UP report in New York Times, July 14.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 14.

Section 1

July 21, 1941.

TO CURB AUTO,
TRUCK PRODUCTION,
MOTOR FUEL USE

Price Administrator Leon Henderson has tentatively ordered reductions up to 50 percent in the production of automobiles, light trucks, domestic mechanical refrigerators, and mechanical household laundry equipment during the next 12 months but said there would be no occasion for an increase in retail prices, says the New York Times, July 20. Under Henderson's order, automobile and light truck production in the next 12 months will total about 2,400,000. No reduction is planned in output of trucks with rated capacities of over one ton.

The Times also says rationing of motor fuel will be necessary before winter in 16 Atlantic Coast States unless there is an immediate voluntary reduction of consumption, according to a statement by Secretary Ickes, petroleum coordinator, which went to the District of Columbia commissioners, oil companies in the Atlantic States, and other agencies.

AAA PROVISIONS
WOULD RELEASE
EXCESS '41 WHEAT

The Department today announced provisions whereby farmers who have stored excess 1941 wheat under the marketing quota may seed below 1942 acreage allotments and obtain release of the stored wheat for marketing without penalty. Where seedings are below the allotment, county AAA committees will release a corresponding amount of 1941 excess wheat as soon as seeding for the year is completed and the wheat seedings measured. In winter wheat areas where no spring wheat is seeded, farmers may convert their excess wheat to free wheat late this fall.

SWISS-GERMAN
TRADE ACCORD
CONCLUDED

An AP report from Berne, Switzerland, in the New York Times, July 20, says Germany and Switzerland concluded Saturday a commercial agreement which appears to relax somewhat wartime restrictions that were threatening seriously to cripple the foreign trade by which Switzerland lives. A communique said Germany received the privilege of buying merchandise "according to its choice and within certain limits." The agreement extends until the end of 1942 the clearing accord between the two countries.

Haiti To Plant
Rubber For U.S.

Haiti is expected in the future to supply a part of United States rubber requirements, says an article in July Agriculture in the Americas.

Although Haiti grows no commercial rubber now, eventual planting of 70,000 acres of high-producing Hevea trees is planned, Thomas A. Fennell, Agricultural Advisor to the Haitian Government, writes. The immediate objective is to establish rubber plantations totaling 7,500 acres, he says. The production of rubber, Fennell adds, is the chief objective of the U.S.-Haitian agricultural agreement announced May 6 by the Department of State.

Protein Sources
In Diet In
Great Britain

The greatest danger to the national diet in Great Britain is protein deficiency, says Country Life (London, May 10) which suggests that this deficiency can be partly overcome by extracting protein from grass by mechanical means and incorporating it in such foods as bread and soups. No one has attempted to produce leaf protein on a large scale by machinery, but much thought has been devoted to the subject and patents have been taken out for different types of crushing machinery. Laboratory experiments indicate that a process is practicable and economically feasible. We are told, says the publication, that it is easy to extract 30 percent of the protein from leaves by mechanical means. The remaining 70 percent would remain with the fiber and be fed to stock in the usual way. Analysis has shown that leaf proteins so far extracted contain all the amino acids of known nutritional importance, in amounts comparable to those found in animal proteins.

Paint-Material
Supply Surveyed

A survey of the supply situation in the various raw materials used in the paint industry has been made public by Ernest T. Trigg, president of the National Paint & Lacquer Association, says a Chicago report to the New York Journal of Commerce, July 14. During the first half of the year paint sales have increased sharply, particularly to industrial users, Trigg said, and defense demands have cut supplies in some instances and in others shipping shortage has reduced supplies and may curtail future imports.

New Mexico Snow
Survey Shows
Water Plentiful

Elephant Butte reservoir in New Mexico is receiving the greatest supply of water in its 25-year history and will come within 8 percent of its capacity this summer, the Department says, in the final snow survey of the high mountain fields above the headwaters of the Rio Grande. The Rocky Mountain snow fields will supply some 2,000,000 acre-feet of water to the reservoir this season. The maximum capacity is 2,274,000 acre-feet.

Priorities
For Repairs

OPACS has ruled that materials and equipment for the repair and maintenance of passenger automobiles, trucks and tractors, household refrigerators, stoves, ranges, water heaters, plumbing fixtures, and furnaces should have preference over all other competing civilian demands, says the New York Times, July 12. The ruling applies only to replacement of worn out or damaged parts and does not apply to changes in models or styles.

U. S. Leads
In Patents

The number of patents for inventions granted throughout the world amounted to 147,396 during 1939, the latest year for which statistics are available, says the International Bureau for Protection of Industrial Property, in the current issue of its official bulletin, La Propriete Industrielle. This represents an increase of 7,424 over 1938. Leading all countries for 1939 is the United States, with a total of 43,442. Next comes Great Britain with 17,605. (New York Times, July 13.)

Agricultural
Education
In Wartime

There is today in Great Britain an unprecedented chance to convert the town dweller to a sane view of agriculture, Country Life (London, May 17) says editorially. Wartime conditions are teaching him hourly that "as he is sprung from the soil, so must he live by it." It is a lesson which he must never be allowed to forget, or we shall find that we have thrown away the greatest opportunity ever afforded for recreating the whole nation, sane and healthy, as it never was before. The realization of that opportunity is in the hands of the farmer and the Government. There is also, it adds, the opportunity to acquire knowledge created by contact with actual farming operations everywhere, established through the county war committees and their numerous district committees.

Plastic
Adhesive

The first one-part, cold-setting plastic adhesive has been manufactured and is being distributed by the U.S. Plywood Corporation, says Mississippi Valley Lumberman, July 4. The product is a plastic resin which lends itself to a great variety of uses in the household and shop. Packaged in powder form, the new adhesive is put into solution by the addition of cold water and is ready for use as soon as mixed.

X-Ray Eye
Tests Cotton
Fiber Strength

Using an X-ray "eye" to look inside cotton fibers, Department scientists have developed a new, rapid method for evaluating fiber strength. What X-rays reveal of fiber structure and strengths of different cotton varieties grown in different areas is important to cotton breeders and manufacturers and will aid in further research on spinning qualities. The new method was developed by AMS and EPI.

Some Aquatic
Plants Harm
Rivers, Streams

Tourists along the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers in the East have been warned to avoid gathering an aquatic plant, the Asiatic water chestnut or caltrop, says the Portland Oregonian, July 6.

This introduced water plant, against whose further spread expensive control measures are being taken, forms "a dense vegetation of large mats of floating rosettes which are held to the bottom of the stream by long stems--some 14 feet long." The result is elimination of natural food for waterfowl, and an impassible barrier to small craft. The Oregonian mentions the similar case of the water hyacinth, native to tropical waters of South America. Amateur enthusiasts introduced it to the St. John's River in Florida, intending to beautify the stream, but the hyacinths multiplied so fast they blocked the river, even stopping paddle-wheeled steamers. Plants should not be introduced except on advice of botanists, says the newspaper.

Bolivian Dam
For Irrigation

Sandy wastes and jungle-tangled hills of Bolivia will be turned into cultivated fields through an irrigation dam on the Pilcomayo River, says an AP report to the New York Times, July 6. A hundred thousand acres of now useless earth will be turned to producing food for a people which for 500 years has poured out mineral riches to buy its living needs from other countries. This, says the report, is for Western Hemisphere defense as much as is the mining of Bolivian minerals which play a part in United States national defense.

British Farm
Measures

British crop prospects have improved lately, says a London wireless to the New York Times, July 6. Both subsoil and moisture reserves are adequate, and the Ministry of Agriculture early in July predicted a record harvest. In any case, the British Government and regional agricultural organizations are preparing field programs for next year, with an eye at the same to requirements as far ahead as 1944. Since the beginning of the war, 4,000,000 acres have been plowed with the aid of Government subsidies. In addition, 2,000,000 more are going under cultivation by autumn. The authorities will draft 40,000 new workers for rural occupations before Christmas, and plans large imports of agricultural machinery.

May Food Stamp
Buying Near
\$10,000,000 Mark

Food stamps added nearly \$10,000,000 worth of farm products in May to the diets of almost 4,000,000 persons, the Department says in its monthly report on the Food Stamp program. During May families used stamps as follows: 14.4 percent for butter; 14.1 percent for eggs; 31.9 percent for pork products; 15.7 percent for flour and other cereals; 12.7 percent for fruit; 11 percent for vegetables.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 15.

Section 1

July 22, 1941.

PAPER SHORTAGE PREDICTED

OPM yesterday predicted a shortage of most types of paper as a result of the war and defense program, says the New York Times, July 22. News-print supplies may be curtailed by transportation difficulties, officials said, although Canadian production is less than capacity and is being increased. Supplies of chlorine, used to bleach paper, also have been reduced, with the result that before many months magazines and books may have a yellowish tinge.

DEFENSE HOUSING PROGRESSES UNDER FSA

The Department announced today that temporary housing for nearly 10,000 defense workers will be completed shortly by FSA in 20 localities in 14 States. Finished or soon to be finished projects will furnish living quarters for 5,798 single men and 3,784 families. Locations of "stopgap" trailers, demountable dormitories, and family houses available to employees of shipyards, powder, plane, and steel plants extend from Hartford, Connecticut, to Bremerton, Washington.

SPRING WHEAT ESTIMATE FOR FOUR STATES

The Crop Reporting Board yesterday estimated spring-wheat production, as of July 15, in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and Montana, at 228,843,000 bushels, compared with the July 1 estimate of 206,767,000 bushels. Unusually favorable moisture and temperature during the first half of July resulted in the addition of 22 million bushels to the July 1 estimate in the 4 States. Their 1940 spring-wheat crop was 187,186,000 bushels and the 10-year (1930-39) average 127,469,000 bushels.

COTTON CLOTH DEMAND HEAVY

An AP report from New York in the Washington Post, July 22, says Worth Street textile sources reported a heavy demand for cotton cloth but few sales yesterday as a result of upward revision of the Federal price ceilings, explaining volume was held down because mills were reluctant to sell until they had studied the new price schedule. Retail cloth prices jumps of as much as 4 cents a yard, the equivalent of about 16 cents a pound, based on wholesale rises of 1 cent a yard, were forecast.

Farm Trends
In 1940 Census

Tabulations from the 1940 Census covering the country as a whole have been released for many agricultural items, says BAE in No. 10 of the Editorial Reference Series. Some tabulations by States and counties are complete. During 1930-40, the farm population did not change greatly except with respect to age. There are fewer children and more old people on farms now than ten years ago.

The number of farm tenants declined slightly during the period, a development probably associated with decrease of sharecroppers in the South. Some parts of the country hit by drought or depression show decline in the number of owners and increase in tenancy. There has been a striking increase in ownership of small part-time farms in the vicinity of large cities.

There has been a marked increase in the number of small farms (those under ten acres) especially in New England and many Eastern and Southern States. Many farms in the West and South have been consolidated. Partly due to consolidation and to exit of sharecroppers, the total number of farms in the country declined about 3 percent in the ten years. The total area of land in farms, however, increased 7.5 percent.

Hatchery
Production

Production of baby chicks by commercial hatcheries in June was the largest for that month on record, AMS reports. The output was estimated at 130,183,000 chicks compared with 77,036,000 in June 1940--the previous high record for the month. Production during May and June is the result of favorable conditions in the poultry industry since announcement of the Department program for increasing egg production. The output of chicks during these two months exceeded the output of the same period last year by 98,329,000 chicks.

FS Man Aids
Army Engineers

Ernest E. Esgate, of the FS, who helped organize the portable sawmill work for the New England Timber Salvage Administration, has been loaned to the Engineering Board of the Army, to assist in similar work. He will be located at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, the Army's engineering center in the East.

Fertilizers
Need Air
In Soil

The poor showing of fertilizers on many Ohio soils has been traced to insufficient air in the soil, says Byron T. Shaw of the Experiment Station. The reduced air capacity has been brought about by too frequent cropping to clean-cultivated crops and too little return of organic matter to the soil. Recent experiments by the station show it is possible to increase the air capacity of soils by growing legume-grass mixture in the rotation, by returning plant residues to the soil, and by using liberal applications of manure. (American Fertilizer, July 5.)

Rayon Uses
Increase, Other
Fabrics Decline

In 1930 some 85 percent of all textile fibers in the United States consisted of cotton, 8.6 percent of wool, 2.5 percent of silk, and 3.9 percent of rayon, says Newsweek, July 21. In 1940 rayon accounted for 9.9 percent, while the other fibers declined, cotton to 80.6, wool to 8.4, and silk to 0.7 percent. The present emergency has stimulated rayon consumption in defense uses, such as parachutes, parachutists' jumping suits, powder bags, and airplane-tire fabrics, according to the Textile Economics Bureau, Inc.

Fertilizer
Grades In N.C.

Under a new North Carolina fertilizer law, effective December 1, 1941, the N.C. Board of Agriculture and Director of the Experiment Station have set up a list of fertilizer grades, ranging from a minimum of 35 to a maximum of 50, which can be sold in the State in 1942. (American Fertilizer, July 5.)

Dairy
Report

Milk production per cow July 1 was about the same as in 1940, whereas on June 1 it was 3 percent larger than in 1940. Total milk production July 1, although only 2 percent larger than a year earlier, was the largest on record for that date. Total production of the principal manufactured dairy products in May was 14 percent larger than in May 1940. (BAE)

Columbia Basin
Irrigation Plan

Investigation of the economic factors that will affect the success of farmers under the Columbia Basin irrigation project is being made by the Bureau of Reclamation before any water is put on the land from Grand Coulee, says the Great Falls Tribune, July 9. The first acres will not be watered before 1944 and then only a small area. The first report on farm policy for the project concludes that the most successful types of farming on northwestern irrigation projects, where similar basic conditions prevail, combine crop and livestock programs. In records of eight Idaho, Washington, and Oregon irrigated districts, the investigators found no type of farming unsuccessful as a whole, but there was greater lack of success in fruit and exclusively cash field crops than in any other type.

Baltimore Grain
Trade Revival

Baltimore's war-born grain trade put the city ahead of all other ports in the number of grain cars unloaded in June and still left more than half its grain-handling facilities unfilled, says the Baltimore Sun, July 16. This situation was revealed in reports by the export and import bureau of the Association of Commerce and the Association of American Railroads. Observers say the heavy arrivals indicate Baltimore may regain its one-time importance as a year-round grain port.

Hog-Cholera
Serum Record
In Illinois

Illinois hog producers used 10,461,000 c.c. of anti-hog-cholera serum and virus during June, breaking all records for that month, says S. F. Russell, director of livestock marketing for the Illinois Agricultural Association and manager of the Illinois Farm Bureau Serum Association. He also said farmers are cooperating with the Government's desire to step up hog production, and in addition to plans for expanding breeding operations they had saved a much larger percentage of pigs farrowed per litter than a year ago. (New York Times, July 16.)

"Encephalo"
Prevention
Advised

Horse encephalomyelitis, of which epidemics occurred during the summers of 1937 and 1938, shows signs of flaring up again, reports to BAI indicate. By the middle of July more than a thousand cases had been reported from 13 States, most of them in the midwest. This year for the first time the eastern type of the disease has been found west of the Mississippi River. BAI advises the administration of chick-embryo vaccine as a protective measure.

To Extend
Blacklist

The United States is already broadening to world-wide scope the published blacklist of Axis business agents in Latin America, the State Department has revealed. Assistant Secretary Dean Acheson told reporters he was already compiling lists of proscribed firms outside the Western Hemisphere. He said firms and individuals friendly to the Axis in Japan, China, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, and Sweden were being recorded for the expanded blacklist. (AP report in Washington Post, July 19.)

Pulp Supply
Increases

Supply of domestic pulp was increased by more than 35,000 tons during May, as the flow of Canadian pulp advanced sharply, while exports were drastically curtailed, says the N.Y. Journal of Commerce, July 18. Moving up to the highest level since April 1940, pulp imports in May totaled 95,175 tons, an increase of 10,039 tons over the April total of 85,136 tons, according to Department of Commerce figures.

Tung Growing
In America

The tung industry in America, says the Florida Experiment Station, in a history of tung development, emphasizes the foresight of a great American plant explorer, David Fairchild (retired from the Department). Shortly after the beginning of the present century and while chief of the Division of Plant Introduction, Fairchild obtained tung seeds from Hankow for the U.S. Plant Introduction Garden in California, seedlings from the garden being distributed to several States, among them Florida. Tung has had its ups and downs in Florida, but it is now a stable crop for the grower who plants in on suitable land and gives it proper cultural care and fertilizer. (Florida Times-Union, July 12.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 16.

Section 1

July 23, 1941.

COTTON CLOSES AT 11-YEAR HIGH

Selling above 17 cents a pound for the first time since early in 1930, the prices of futures on the New York Cotton Exchange closed yesterday at net gains of 14 to 16 points, says the New York Times, July 23. Buying by the trade and speculative sources, which absorbed realizing, kept the market moving upward. It was the fourth consecutive session in which prices had established new high levels for the last 11 years.

RAINS REDUCE CHINCH-BUG HARM TO CORN

Heavy June rains over most of the Corn Belt States dealt chinch bugs a "knock-out blow" in many infested areas and greatly reduced their damage to corn, the Department reported yesterday. Fall and winter surveys indicated 1941 would be a bad chinch-bug year, but beating rains caught bugs when most vulnerable -- in the redbug stage -- and controlled them effectively.

PAPER IMPORTS, PRODUCTION EXCEED DEMAND

Domestic paper production and imports of all paper grades for the first half of 1941 aggregated 9,510,000 tons, compared with OPM demand estimates of 9,250,000 tons for the same period, says a report in the New York Journal of Commerce, July 23. Despite industry operations at only 93 percent for the past six months, domestic output totaled 8,165,000 tons, it was reported, or at the annual rate of 16,330,000 tons, which contrasts with official estimates of domestic production requirements of 16,217,000 tons for the full year 1941.

MATERIALS FOR DEFENSE INDUSTRIES

American industries producing goods for civilian consumption face the early prospect of a tremendous readjustment of operations unless the rate of ship sinkings is brought below the level of a year ago, Edward R. Stettinius, director of priorities of OPM, yesterday told the Truman investigating committee of the Senate. He testified before the committee as it continued its investigation of progress of the defense effort and told of the functions of his division to see that the defense industries of the country are kept supplied with essential raw materials and machine tools. (New York Journal of Commerce, July 23.)

Skin, Hide
Curing Test

In recent years many chemicals have been suggested for mixing with salt to increase its preservative action in curing skins and hides, say L. S. Stuart, and R. W. Frey, of the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, in the American Leather Chemists Association Journal, July. They have developed a laboratory method for measuring the comparative preservative value of chemicals for this purpose, and discuss merits and limitations of the test.

Brazilian
Plant Pathology

Anna E. Jenkins, mycologist in BPI, and Annie D'Armond Marchant, of the Pan American Union, have translated from Portuguese into English an article on the history of plant pathology in Brazil, by the late Arsene Puttemans, foremost Brazilian phytopathologist. The translation was published in the Journal of Agriculture of the University of Puerto Rico and a review recently appeared in Chronica Botanica.

Uses Of Wood
In Wartime

At the "wood and war" session of the recent A.A.A.S. meeting, George W. Trayer, chief of the Division of Forest Products, said Government scientists had made a wood-charcoal filter for gas masks. The research was a continuation of World War attempts to develop a wood substitute for coconut-shell and peach-pit charcoals, which have special ability to absorb poisonous gases. It represents one of the most important uses of trees for military purposes. During the 1914-18 conflict, Trayer said, as many as 30,000 trees a day were needed to provide wood and timber for a single French Army corps. He estimated that preparedness demands would require the use of 38,000,000,000 feet of lumber in 1942.

Bennett Appointed
Visual Specialist

Don Bennett has been appointed visual specialist in Extension, says Extension Service Review, July. His experience includes work with visual production agencies, the New York Institute of Photography, Motion Picture Section of the Department, and Photonews, a weekly magazine. While with the Department before, Bennett directed the international prize-winning picture, Poultry--A Billion Dollar Industry.

Making
Vinegar

New in Michigan is a glazed-tile generator, small and inexpensive, for the farmer who has a few barrels of hard cider he wants to convert quickly (two or three days) into good vinegar, says Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife, August. Materials needed for the generator cost from \$6 to \$10. Directions for making it are in a bulletin of Michigan State College.

Snow Survey
Data Show
Water Supply

Though snow-survey data have been available to farmers only since 1935, when the Department became national coordinator of the surveys, today snow measurements to indicate water supplies are made by the Forest Service and National Park Service rangers, Geological Survey stream gaugers, power line patrolmen, Fish and Wildlife Service hunters, county water masters, irrigation district managers, and others, say Frank B. Harper and Jack G. James, of SCS, in Soil Conservation, July. The snow surveyors cover approximately 4,000 miles of rough mountain terrain each winter, with one trip alone in the Cascades calling for 120 miles of travel on skis. The SCS has 13 snow survey cabins in the Oregon district, each equipped to shelter two men for 2 or 3 weeks in an emergency. It cooperates with the FS, Geological Survey, and others in stocking 17 additional cabins belonging to these agencies.

Lime Industry
Regulation

Growing and shipping of Persian and Tahiti varieties of limes are now regulated in Florida in a manner similar to that of the orange, grapefruit, and tangerine industries, as a result of two lime laws, says American Fruit Grower, July. The laws regulate the maturity and juice content of limes which are packed for interstate shipment and provide for an assessment of 4 cents on each standard packed 1 3/5 bushel box.

Corn Hybrid
Breeding
Shortened

A short cut in the task of breeding corn hybrids is indicated in the findings of New Jersey Experiment Station agronomists that there is good correlation between the chlorophyll content of a corn plant and its yielding ability, says W. H. Martin, director of the station, in N. J. Farm and Garden, July. Since chlorophyll content is determined by two factors which are inherited separately, the leaf area of the plant and the concentration of chlorophyll in the leaf, breeders can select on the basis of these characters with the knowledge that they are working toward higher yields. This is a much quicker and less laborious process than testing promising plants in the field.

Orchardists
Buy Fruit
Parasites

Many peach orchardists this year are getting air shipments from Moorestown, N.J., of a parasite used in controlling the oriental fruit moth and strawberry leaf roller, says Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife, August. A dealer in Moorestown, the only one in the country, collects leaf rollers throughout south Jersey, hatches out the parasites, and ships them by air in small windowed boxes with damp cotton for water and honey-smeared paper for food. Each box contains 200 parasites.

Bends, Grass
Disease In
Northwest

A new disease of grasses and cereals, bends, has appeared in recent years in the Pacific Northwest, says Paper No. 475 of the Washington Experiment Station. Investigation of the bends disease was made by workers of BPI and SCS (in the State of Washington) and the State Experiment Station. The disease was named after a sharp bend which appears in affected plants. Other names such as hairpin or crookneck have been suggested as descriptive of the disease. Though many species of grasses have been affected with the bends, it is not as yet of economic importance. (Phytopathology, July.)

Homegrown Feed
In Great Britain

Farmers (in Great Britain) will have no reason to complain if a shortage of protein feeding-stuffs this winter takes them unawares, says Estate Magazine (England, June). In addition to all that is being done by the Ministry of Agriculture to encourage the growth of more feedingstuffs and the making of more silage, the Hannah Dairy Research Institute, Imperial Chemical Industries, and the Agricultural Department of Boots (chemists) are taking part in an intensive education drive. Some 450 demonstrators trained last year have set out on lecture tours all over the country, and in May two mobile exhibition vans, designed to show farmers how they may become independent of imported foodstuffs, took to the road.

OES List
Of Workers

The Office of Information has issued a new list of agricultural workers in the land-grant colleges and experiment stations, as MP 420. It is available from the Division of Publications.

Textiles For
The Army

At the Jeffersonville, (Ind.) Quartermaster Depot, where the Army buys fabrics for tents and other equipment, (except clothing) many attempts have been made to substitute one fabric for another which is scarcer, but there has been little effort to substitute synthetic fibers for cotton or to make other radical changes, says W. G. Ashmore, of Textile World, in the July issue. Practically the only fiber substitution is the replacement of linen with high-strength cotton yarn in harness and saddle straps. An attempt to substitute sisal for hemp in ropes was unsuccessful due to decreased wet breaking strength. It is possible more effort will be made to use synthetic yarns and specially processed cotton yarns for various purposes after completion of a proposed new \$50,000 testing laboratory where such matters will be studied, he says.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 17.

Section 1

July 24, 1941.

FOOD FOR DEFENSE,
NATIONAL NUTRITION
PROGRAMS

American food policy in the present emergency constitutes two programs, food-for-defense and national nutrition, M. L. Wilson, Extension Director and Chairman of the Nutrition Advisory Committee to the Coordinator of Health, Welfare, and Related Defense Activities, said yesterday in an address at Kansas City. The food-for-defense plan is an emergency program, he said, but the national nutrition plan is a long-pull program. Our State land-grant colleges; our high schools; our Government agencies, both Federal and State; industry; advertising; and scientists stand behind sound nutrition, all committed to the principle that we must provide a sound diet for all.

N.Y. COTTON
FUTURES BREAK

Prices of futures on the New York Cotton Exchange suffered yesterday the widest break in a month, following a 4-day upward sweep which had established gains of more than a cent a pound and carried the 1942 deliveries above a 17 cent level for the first time since early in 1930, says the New York Times, July 24. Closing prices were near the day's low level, showing net losses of 41 to 43 points on the day.

FAR EASTERN
COMMODITIES
MARKETS

Led by raw silk, Far Eastern Commodities yesterday reflected growing tension in the Far East and mounting shipping difficulties in the Pacific with further sharp price advances, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 24. Raw silk skyrocketed to \$3.30 to \$3.35 in the uptown spot market for an advance of 22 cents within two days. Rubber and pepper futures advanced, while such markets as copra, coconut oil, manila hemp, and sugar were greatly disturbed.

D.C. 5-CENT MILK
SALES INCREASE

Sales of 5-cent quarts of milk to needy families in the Washington, D.C., area are virtually certain to pass the 90,000 mark this month, a new record, says a report in the Washington Post, July 24. Milk cards issued to approximately 1,500 individuals and family heads stricken from WPA rolls since July 1, are accountable for most of the gain in volume, said David Miller, surplus commodity director of the Department of Public Welfare. More than 3,000 of the nickel quarts are now being sold daily at the city's 11 surplus milk depots.

Rural Crafts
Revival In
Great Britain

Loss of imports in Great Britain has necessitated the revival of many rural crafts that had been near extinction by competition of imported mass-produced goods, says Wood (London, May). For the second time in the last quarter century, war has been responsible for revival of the ancient industry of charcoal burning. Today, however, the old method of burning charcoal by means of great heaps of logs covered with clay has been superseded by the installation of modern ovens. Before the war, hoop-makers could not compete with mass production methods in Holland, Belgium, and northern France, but today craftsmen are busy supplying needs of British coopers. Another woodcraft that has been revived is making besoms (brooms made of twigs). Wicker baskets are no longer imported from Holland; today there is demand for oak "swills," to use the North Country term, or "trugs," as they are called in the South.

To Purchase
Lumber Under
Lend-Lease Act

Purchases of lumber and timber products under the lend-lease act will be made through the Procurement Division of the Treasury, the Commerce Department has announced. The British Government states that, in addition to the usual lumber and timber products essential for war purposes, purchasing under the act will include Sitka spruce, airplane plywood and veneers, pitchpine, cedar, hardwoods such as tough ash, oak, hickory, and some yellow poplar and cypress. (New York Times, July 19.)

Adjustments
In Cotton

Commenting on Secretary Wickard's recent address at Waco, Texas, Progressive Farmer, August, says: "We agree with Secretary Wickard that 'this is the time of all times for the South to make further adjustments in cotton.' There is a market for all the dairy products, meat, vegetables, chickens, and eggs the South can grow, not only for Great Britain but for our own people, too. The time seems to be made to order for the South to get its carryover of cotton down so that when and if world markets open up after the war, we shall have our cotton business on a sound basis."

Agricultural
History Series

The first number of an Agricultural History Series, Some General Histories of Latin America, has just been issued by BAE. The new series, a vehicle for distribution of the results of agricultural historical research throughout the Department, is planned and edited in BAE with the aid of a Department advisory committee. No. 1 of the series is by Wayne D. Rasmussen, BAE.

Wood Linters
From Gum Tree

Development of a new chemical process to convert the southern gum tree into chemical linters for use in war and into plastics, rayon, paper, and other wood derivatives for use in peace, has been announced by a cellulose company, says Washington correspondence in the Atlanta Constitution, July 13. By the new process, it is reported, the gum tree, as well as other southern hardwoods, can be converted into a product similar to cotton linters. The company has built a pilot plant which is now turning out about 2,000 pounds of wood linters a day from southern gum trees.

Power Alcohol
From Wheat

A Melbourne report by Reuters in the Washington Times Herald, July 19, says the Australian Federal and State governments have agreed to a plan whereby 10,000,000 gallons of power alcohol will be produced annually from wheat. The Federal government is providing the capital for distilleries to be established in country districts.

U.S. Imports
From Latin
America

United States purchases from Latin America for 1941 are estimated at \$1,020,000,000, or double the normal value of Latin American exports to continental Europe, William LaVarre, Department of Commerce, estimates in Foreign Commerce Weekly. During 1941, he says, our imports will exceed exports to South America by \$100,000,000. Even Argentina, which more than any other Latin-American republic has been dependent on European customers, had an export balance of more than 182,000,000 pesos at the end of the first five months of this year, compared with an import balance of 70,000,000 pesos for 1940, says LaVarre.

S.C. Rural
Enterprises

Clemson College is investigating small-scale rural enterprises in South Carolina, says G. H. Aull, of the college, in Southern Economic Journal, July. The study has been in progress a year and is expected to continue four years more. It is financed chiefly by a grant from the General Education Board. Some enterprises under investigation are canning and food preservation, corn mills, syrup mills, handicrafts, contract work with farm equipment and turpentine distillers.

Skim Milk, Whey
Improve Soups

Skim milk and whey improve the body and flavor of dried-soup mixtures when used in quantities up to 25 percent of the weight of the mixture, report G. A. Ramsdell and B. H. Webb, of BDI, in an article in Food Research, May-June. Formulas have been developed in BDI laboratories for dried-bean and dried-pea soups.

Electric
Pasteurizer

England, Wiedemer, and Burkhardt, of the Maryland Station, describe a small electric holder-type pasteurizer for dairies, in Journal of Milk Technology, July-August. The pasteurizer is simple and convenient, the operating cost is low with average electric rates, and no auxiliary equipment such as a boiler is needed. Milk pasteurized in the electric holder-pasteurizer compares favorably with that pasteurized in a hot-water spray-type holder-pasteurizer, they report.

Northwest
Reforestation
Projects

The Clemons "tree farm," a private reforestation project covering 130,000 acres in the Grays Harbor region of Washington, is described in an article in West Coast Lumberman, July. A similar plan is being carried out by a timber company in the Vail area, says the Lumberman. It suggests that where cutover lands are scattered and private initiative impractical, States, counties, or communities might work out ways of reforesting and protecting private forest lands.

Automatic
Home Water
Heater

There is an automatic home water system on the market, says Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife, August, that needs only to be plugged into an electric outlet and coupled to the source of supply. Up to its full capacity, the more taps are opened the more it will pump. It has a capacity of 250 gallons an hour with 15-foot suction lift, and 350 gallons with flooded suction. It is intended for small homes and farms whose supply depends on wells 22 feet or less deep.

Food Supply
For Hawaii

The large increase in population in Hawaii, due to defense activities, has reduced the percentage of home-grown foodstuff consumed from about 30 to less than 25 percent, says Extension Service Review, July. This, in spite of the fact that Hawaiian farmers marketed 14,000 more tons of food in 1940 than in 1935. The Extension Service in Hawaii, with other agencies, are thinking in terms of food-storage facilities so that a 6-month supply can be accumulated, especially of staple foods such as rice, wheat, canned milk, and fats and oils, says the Review.

U.S.-Australian
Economic Parley

An AP report from Sydney says an Australian Government mission will leave shortly for the United States for important economic negotiations, including tariff and shipping problems and disposal of Australian surpluses. E. McCarthy, assistant secretary of the Customs Department of the Commonwealth, will head the mission. (Washington Post, July 22.)

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 18.

Section 1

July 25, 1941.

RECORD FOOD
MANUFACTURE
PREDICTED

America will manufacture more food products this year than any nation has ever produced in the history of the world, Paul S. Willis, president of the Associated Grocery Manufacturers of America, predicted last night in announcing that cooperation with the national defense program would be the keynote of the 3-day AGMA convention to be held November 5-7 in New York City. Last year our manufacturers produced about \$4,000,000,000 worth of grocery products. This year we have been called upon to meet a tremendous increase in domestic consumption of food caused by new demands of the Army and Navy and by the ever increasing purchasing power of the civilian consumer, Willis said. (New York Journal of Commerce, July 25.)

U.S. SUGAR SUPPLY
TO BE ADEQUATE,
SAYS BERNHARDT

Assurances of adequate supplies of sugar available to the United States to meet consumption demands even if the Philippines are unable to completely fill their quota were given yesterday by Dr. Joshua Bernhardt, chief of the Sugar Division of the Department of Agriculture, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 25. He said that of the 145,553 short-ton quota for the foreign producers which benefit under the law in any deficit in the Philippine quota, there has been received to date 56,814 tons, leaving a balance that can come in of 88,739 tons, plus an additional 25,000 tons of unallocated dutiable sugar of the Philippine quota.

FARM MACHINERY
TO GET OPACS
PREFERENCE

A civilian allocation program providing that manufacturers of farm machinery be given the "highest civilian preference rating" for materials to be delivered during August, September, and October was issued yesterday by OPACS Chief Leon Henderson, says the New York Times, July 25. The program is designed to insure an adequate supply of raw materials for manufacture of farm machinery needed for maintaining the nation's food supply and to avoid working a hardship on the country's farmers.

Paper, Newsprint
From Pine

Since chemists discovered how to make paper out of southern pine a few years ago, more than \$200,000,000 has been invested in paper mills in the South, says Memphis Commercial Appeal, July 11. More recent is the development of a process for making newsprint out of southern pine, which promises a new income of \$250,000,000 a year for the South. A newsprint mill as large as the new \$6,000,000 one in operation at Lufkin, Texas, is soon to be built at Savannah, Tenn. The possibilities of the future are apparent when one realizes that it would take the output of 87 newsprint mills of similar size to supply America's newspapers with the 12,000 tons of paper used each day at a cost over a half a million dollars.

3-Year Wheat
Storage Study

The most thorough experiment ever undertaken of the effect on spring wheat of long-time storage in detached steel bins will be begun this year and continued for three years, says Farmers Elevator Guide, July. At Jamestown, N. Dak., a 10-acre plot, on which will be built over 170 steel bins of types generally used on farms in the State, has been leased for three years. The bins, supplied by the CCC from surplus stocks, will be of two sizes, 2,750 and 1,000 bushel. When filled, they will hold about 300,000 bushels. The study will be carried out by the AAA, CCC, AC&E, and E and PQ, says the Guide.

Corn Picker
Improvements

There have been a number of recent improvements in corn pickers, says Farm Machinery and Equipment, July. Rubber tires improve their traction when fields are muddy and soft; and rubber tires on corn wagons reduce the required pulling power and make possible greater road speed behind a tractor. New couplings for corn wagons make it easier to connect and disconnect them from the picker. Improved picker points on harvesters do a more thorough job in getting the down cornstalks and short stalks; and improved rollers get the small corn nubbins often missed by hand husking.

Soybean Protein
For Defense

Because of defense needs for adhesives, the Department is exploring the possibility of increasing commercial production of soybean protein by a process developed by Department chemists. The object is to obtain sufficient supplies of soybean protein to make up for growing shortages of casein, an adhesive necessary to defense industries and housing. Adhesive qualities of soybean protein are equivalent to casein. The chemists began working on the problem of extracting protein from soybeans in a commercially practicable fashion more than four years ago in the Soybean Research Laboratory at Urbana, Illinois. Because of this pioneer research, soybean protein is now available to help offset the present threat to defense production caused by restricted casein supplies.

Farm Income
In Wartime

"Farmers have not as yet fully recovered from the ill effects of the price spree of World War I," say Mordecai Ezekiel and Virginia D. Reeve, in July Agricultural Situation. "Although they desire and are entitled to reasonable income from their work, neither farmers nor workers could derive lasting gains from price rises that took away in continuously rising costs all that was gained from higher prices or wages. Farmers, therefore, have a vital stake in expanded industrial capacity, increased farm output of the products in demand today, allocation and priority rules, price regulations, and in other programs or actions designed to prevent a general price inflation which would take away in rising costs as much as it would seem to give in rising prices. Effective action in these fields will enable farmers to participate in the gains from fuller production which defense is causing, without suffering from the inevitable aftermath of a spiral of skyrocketing prices and costs."

Carotene From
Plant Tissue

Development of a patented process for obtaining carotene from green plant tissue such as alfalfa is announced by the Michigan Experiment Station, says Hoard's Dairyman, July 25. Carotene is transformed into Vitamin A in humans and animals. Preliminary estimates indicate that a ton of alfalfa meal containing half a pound of carotene would supply sufficient Vitamin A for 100 persons for a year.

Blowers For
Frost Protection

Though blowers have not yet displaced smudge pots for frost protection in California orchards, there are about 150 successful blower plants in the State, says Agricultural Engineering, July. B. D. Moses, of the California Experiment Station, reports that of 86 plants in the Los Angeles area, 28 are operated by gas engines and 58 by electric motors. These machines protect 1,885 acres with 7.4 h.p. per acre and represent an investment of \$175 an acre.

Willamette
Valley Water
For Farms

Writing on the Willamette Valley project, in Agricultural Engineering, July, W. L. Powers, of the Oregon Experiment Station, says good irrigable soil types in the valley total 740,000 acres, while additional types of fair irrigability increase the total area to around 1,200,000 acres. The project could supply gravity water to 224,000 acres of this favorable land and increase the ground water level for pumping to a similar additional area. Increased production of forage, dairy products and other livestock enterprises, as well as new opportunities in fiber flax, vegetable and seed crops, commercial vegetable production, hops, mint and other oil crops, sugar beets, drug plants and other specialty crops, which are dependent on irrigation expansion in the valley, will add to the land values and the agricultural and business returns of the area, says Powers.

One-CanMilk Cooler

The latest addition in the farm electric milk cooling field is the development of a one-can milk cooler, says J. E. Nichols, of Penn State College, in Agricultural Engineering, July. Several manufacturers have undertaken to develop and build such a cooler. A survey has shown that about 50 percent of the dairy farmers in the United States produce less than two cans of milk a day, he says.

Plastic Milk-Bottle Cap

A plastic milk bottle cap for household use is now on the market, says American Milk Review, July. The upper part, which fits tightly over the top of the bottle, has an inclosed spout for pouring. The cap is made of tenite, a shatterproof plastic.

Farm TenantFunds AllottedTentatively

Allocation of the \$50,000,000 available for loans under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act during 1941-42 has been made tentatively by the Department. Distribution of funds is based upon farm population and prevalence of tenancy in the States and territories. The 1941-42 allotments, explained FSA, were calculated on preliminary farm population figures from the 1940 Census. Final allocations will be made when final population figures are released by the Census, probably about October 1. About 9,000 families of farm tenants, sharecroppers, or farm laborers, will be enabled to buy farms of their own during the next 12 months. Approximately 21,000 farm families had been helped to ownership by June 30, 1941.

GrasslandFor the South

Thousands of acres of land now idle and abandoned in the Southern States can be turned into profitable hay fields and pastures, R. Y. Bailey, SCS, recently told the Southeastern Grassland Conference in Raleigh, N. C. Conversion of this land to productivity can be accomplished to a large extent by the use of two crops, kudzu and lespedeza sericea, that yield excellent returns on poor land. Both are perennial legumes, both grow well under unfavorable conditions, and both are profitable hay and grazing crops. Little known until recent years, they promise to become important sources of income to southern farmers, he said.

Canadian CattleExports ToU.S. Decline

Canadian beef consumption is increasing with a resultant decline in marketings of Dominion cattle in the United States, says the Montreal Department of Agriculture. During the second quarter of 1941 cattle exports to the United States were less than half the low-duty quota of 51,720 head for heavy cattle. Estimates are that exports in this category will be nearly 100,000 head less than the normal annual quota of 193,350 head. (N.Y. Journal of Commerce, July 21.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

July 28, 1941.

CONTROLS APPLIED TO SILK SUPPLIES BY OFFICIALS

Defense officials put quick controls on silk as the future of such supplies became uncertain, due to the freezing of credits by both the United States and Japan, says an AP report in the Washington Star, July 27. E. R. Stettinius, Jr., defense director of priorities, froze all silk stocks, requiring an authorization for movement of the commodity except from ships to importers. Mills were forbidden to process thrown silk in excess of the totals used last week. Leon Henderson, price administrator, called on the commodity exchanges to suspend trading in silk futures and announced that a ceiling in raw silk prices would be fixed at the level prevailing July 21.

STAPLE COTTON FOR POWDER BY USDA PROCESS

A new process for using staple cotton instead of cotton linters in the manufacture of smokeless powder, a project completed at the Southern Regional Research Laboratory at New Orleans, will be given a plant test soon at Hopewell, Virginia, says an AP report in the Washington Star, July 27. F. J. Lynch, director of the laboratory, said two machines were built to cut the long ^{cotton} fibers into short lengths for chemical processing and subsequent use in making the powder.

PAPER INDUSTRIES REDUCE CHLORINE CONSUMPTION

One of the largest chemical-consuming groups, the pulp, paper, and paper board industry, is reducing its consumption of chlorine at least 10 percent immediately, which is estimated to make approximately 15,000 tons of chlorine available annually for national defense purposes, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 28. Chlorine, a basic chemical, was produced in this country last year to the extent of about 605,000 tons and was one of the first important industrial chemicals to be placed under priorities. It is essential in the processing of certain munitions, lubricating oils, synthetic rubber, and synthetic resins and in the manufacture of ethylene glycol.

U.S. Buys
More From
Argentina

A Buenos Aires cable to the New York Times, July 25, says trade returns for the past six months of the year show the United States as Argentina's best customer, having bought 263,000,000 pesos worth of goods, equal to 36 percent of the total exported. In the corresponding period last year, the United States bought from Argentina only 125,000,000 pesos worth, or 13.5 percent of the total.

Agriculture's
Adjustments
In Defense

"In the days ahead, America's farmers are going to run into many tough spots," said M. Clifford Townsend, Director of Agricultural Defense Relations, addressing recently the Midwest Training School of the Farm Bureau Federation. "Priorities and rationing, which may be expected to increase greatly as our defense program develops, are already affecting poultry equipment, milking equipment, fencing, steel grain bins, tractors and farm machinery generally. Nitrates, the basis of explosives for fighters and fertilizers for farmers, may be affected soon. Other chemicals and drugs for insecticides and fungicides are likely to be short. The shortage of farm labor, the increased cost of things farmers buy, and all of the other things that make up a war-time economy should be considered by farmers in planning for the future. In time, we are going to have to meet all of these problems and many more besides. I have faith that America's farmers, backed and informed by the same invaluable agencies which have made them the world's greatest producers, will be able to meet the world's challenge of adjustment."

Horse Dourine
In California

Fourteen horses were either destroyed or quarantined in San Diego County, California, after having been found infected with dourine, says Western Livestock Producer, July 15. This is the first time this disease has appeared in California. Dr. C. U. Duckworth, State Department of Agriculture, reported that about 2,000 horses had been tested in the county and 10 Federal and State veterinarians were testing the remaining 6,000 horses. The U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry says little benefit is obtained from medicinal treatment of this disease.

Winkler, New
Wine Grape

Winkler is a new wine grape variety developed in California by L. K. Marshall, a grower, and A. J. Winkler, head of the viticultural division of the University of California, says Fruit Products Journal, July. Discovery of the unusual flavor of the new variety followed the test pressing more than a decade ago of an unknown "rogue" white grape found growing in a black grape vineyard. The Winkler grape, it is reported, is high in natural acid essential to quality light wines.

Minimum Cost
Of Family
Type Farms

In response to a request of the Department, 1,318 county land-use planning committees, with a membership of about 13,000 farm men and women and 5,000 representatives of Federal, State, and local agencies, submitted estimates early in 1941 on the minimum cost of family-type farms in their counties and gave their opinions as to the trend of such costs, says BAE.

Fifty-two percent of the committees reported rising costs of family-type farms during the past two or three years, while 76 percent reported rising costs at present. Most of the remaining reported no definite trend in prices, while only a few reported declining costs. The estimated minimum cost of family-type farms varied greatly between States and regions and between counties in a State. The estimates ranged from less than \$2,000 to \$14,000 and over.

Fruit, Vegetable
Packaging Costs

Cost of containers, boxes, cartons, wrappers, labels, and other packaging materials constitutes about 22 percent of the factory value of packs of U.S. canned and preserved fruit and vegetable industries, according to statistics of the Census Bureau, compiled from manufacturers' returns. (National Grocers Bulletin, July.)

Dehydrated
Foods Would
Save Tin

Dehydrated foods, declared equal in nutritive value to canned foods by the Food Committee of the Army and Navy Rations Board, may help solve a possible tin shortage, says August Scientific American. The water content of a can of soup may be as high as 80 percent. By removing this water, and later replacing it just before serving, not only is it delivered to the consumer without use of a tin can, but there are savings in shipping, handling and storage charges.

Coffee Plastic
Byproducts

An industrially important sidelight on the manufacture of coffee plastic, (now produced in Brazil) is the list of byproducts obtained in the process, says Scientific American, August. It includes oils useful in the production of cosmetics, lacquers, insecticides, soaps, and other materials; vitamin components of interest to the producers of medical supplies; and caffeine, used in soft drinks.

Farm Labor
Scarcity

Scarcity of farm labor is becoming more serious to western agriculture, says Western Livestock Journal, July 15, due to the draft and call for workers in defense industries. This means more labor-saving equipment and machinery is going to be needed on farms, ranches, and dairies if a sufficient amount of food is to be available for this Nation and for Great Britain.

Quick Freezing
Of Eggs
In Home

Locker-plant patrons may store eggs in their lockers during the heavy laying season, experiments at the Oregon School of Home Economics indicate.

A successful procedure for small-scale freezing of eggs, as well as experiments with the use of frozen eggs in cooking, has been carried out at Oregon State College. Experiments show that the addition of a small amount of honey to the eggs before freezing is the most effective treatment, though salt, sugar, or corn syrup may be used. Little if any work has been done on small-scale quick freezing of eggs in the home. (Ice and Refrigeration, July.)

Quick-Frozen
"Bottom" Fish

What may be the beginning of a new quick-freezing fish industry, that of using surplus bottom fish such as sole, flounder, and ling cod, has started at Kalama, Washington, says Ice and Refrigeration, July, where sharp-frozen filets of sole are produced. A large quantity of this and other small bottom fish are taken annually, principally by trawlers operating off the coast.

Precooling
Of Fruit

Change from standard refrigeration to precooling with other modified methods of refrigeration for the transportation of fruit has resulted in an annual saving to the citrus industry of about \$1,000,000, says an article in Ice and Refrigeration, July. Most precooling equipment requires that a carload of produce be stationary during the precooling period, but experiments are being carried on to equip refrigerator cars with permanent fans driven from the wheels or axles, to make it possible to precool shipments in transit. A limited number of cars with permanent fans are now in commercial use.

Department
Directory

A new directory of Department personnel both in Washington and in the field has just been issued, as MP 431. It is available from the Division of Publications, Information.

Paint With
Synthetic Resin
Resists Fire

Paints made with synthetic resins as a base, instead of the customary linseed oil, may make good fire-retarding coatings for wood, the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory has found. The protection seems largely due, says Arthur Van Kleeck, of the Laboratory, to the fact that when the paint is burned, it forms a frothy char, which tends to insulate the wood below from effects of the flame. In addition, by adding phosphoric acid to the paint, the charred paint burns with difficulty. Tests were made in which an uncoated piece of wood lost 80 percent of its weight in a fire, nothing but the charcoal remaining. Under identical conditions, treated wood lost only 6 to 15 percent of weight. (Science Service.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

July 29, 1941.

ONE-VARIETY COTTON PROGRAM

The Department announced yesterday that under the 1941-42 one-variety cotton improvement and marketing program, up to 225,000 bales of cotton produced in 1941, in selected one-variety areas, will be made available to domestic and foreign spinners in even running lots of cotton from the same areas. Marketing agencies will buy the cotton net weight from growers in selected one-variety areas and sell it to domestic and foreign spinners. The program provides Federal payments of \$2.35 per bale for uncompressed cotton and \$2.75 for compressed.

NEW ZEALAND CANCELS TREATY

A Wellington report by the UP in the New York Journal of Commerce, July 29, says Acting Premier Walter Nash announced yesterday that New Zealand has notified Japan that the trade treaty between the two countries will be cancelled upon expiration of the necessary notice.

LA GUARDIA OPPOSES PRICE RISES IN NYC

Mayor La Guardia yesterday dedicated the Moore Street Market in Brooklyn and promised he would not permit unjustified rises in prices or profiteering in New York City, says the New York Times, July 29. Although he acknowledged there might be a slight rise in prices made necessary by increased costs of production and transportation, the Mayor warned that "we will jump on whoever jumps prices without justification."

CIVIL SERVICE EXTENDED

An estimated total of 182,486 Federal employees received Civil Service status and others the right to promotion and transfer between now and January 1, pending acquisition of classified status, under an executive order signed by President Roosevelt Saturday and issued yesterday, says the New York Times, July 29.

FERTILIZER EXPORTS DOWN

Total exports of fertilizers and fertilizer materials in May amounted to 81,971 long tons, valued at \$1,061,059, says the New York Journal of Commerce, July 28. This is the first decline in tonnage from the corresponding month of the preceding year since July 1940. Shipments of phosphate rock and potash materials were above last year, but all other classes of exports were lower, the National Fertilizer Association reports.

Canadian
Oil Control

The Canadian Wartime Prices and Trade Board has announced an agreement whereby a percentage of imported oils used in shortening will be replaced by domestic animal fats, says a CP report in the New York Times, July 27. The agreement represents practical application of import restrictions imposed under the War Exchange Conservation Act.

Synthetic
Fibers

Of the two groups of synthetic fibers, vegetable and mineral, says Joseph L. Nicholson, author of "Synthetics Preferred: The Revolution in Man-Made Fibers," in August Harper's, vegetable synthetics so far are in the lead in quantity produced. It may be in the end, however, that mineral fibers will jeopardize the existence of the rayon and protein fibers as they, in turn, have threatened cotton, silk, and wool, he says.

REA Loans,
Power Lines
Increase

REA allotted practically all of the \$100,000,000 available for loans during the fiscal year 1941, the Department has announced. Payments of interest and repayments of principal on REA loans are ahead of schedule by a larger amount than at any earlier reporting period. On June 30, allotments totaled \$369,027,621, compared with \$268,972,949 at the end of the 1940 fiscal year. During the first ten months of the 1941 year, the number of energized systems increased from 630 to 718 and the number of miles of line in operation from 233,166 to 291,986.

Australia
Sells More
Wool To U.S.

War orders for woolen goods, combined with heavy United States purchases for service requirements under that country's defense program, are reaching such proportions as to lessen considerably fears that have been felt in Australia regarding excessive accumulations of raw wool as a result of the closure of European markets, says Pastoral Record (Melbourne, June 10) in editorial comment. Commercial orders for the United States, apart from wool shipped to that country under the "strategic storage" scheme, had reached 461,000 bales three months ago. United States purchases this year will more than compensate for the loss of the French market, which in 1939-40 absorbed 505,000 bales, as against 50,000 taken by the U.S.A.

Canada Restricts
Farm Storage

A CP report in the Winnipeg Free Press, July 19, says an order empowering the special products board to prohibit storage in Canada of agricultural products over which it has jurisdiction has recently been issued. Last month, the board issued orders designed to control the removal of eggs from storage with a view to meeting Canada's commitments to Great Britain. The new order gives the board power to forbid placing agricultural products in storage as well.

"Gondola" Cars
For Wheat

A test run of open gondola-type railroad cars for shipping wheat was made recently from Sublette to Dodge City, Kansas, says a report in the Topeka Capital, July 15. The gondola car is wider, longer, and deeper than the box car in which wheat is usually transported, and is open at the top. If canvas covers are provided for gondola cars, they could carry about twice as much wheat as the usual box cars, which cannot be loaded to capacity because space must be left at the top for testers, says the report. The new type cars reduce costs of testing and eliminate the necessity for scooping and sweeping.

Fiber Consumption
In U.S. 1892-1939

A report on fiber consumption in the United States, 1892-1939, has just been issued by the Department. The publication, by two workers of the Southern Regional Research Laboratory, says that in each decade since 1900, cotton has averaged 70 to 72 percent of all raw fibers consumed by U.S. mills. Wool made up 8 to 9 percent, hard fibers, 9 to 14, jute, 3 to 8, silk, 2 or less, flax and hemp, less than 1. Rayon consumption increased from less than 1 percent prior to 1924 to 9 percent in 1939.

Home-Grown
Food Supply
For Britain

A London report to the Baltimore Sun, July 25, says R. S. Hudson, Minister of Agriculture, recently informed the House of Commons that Britain will enter her third year of war with prospects of having home-grown food available in greater quantities than in the past 12 months and possibly exceeding her peacetime supply. Hudson was careful to specify that he referred to food values and that the actual diet of the British is bound to vary under the strain of war. The change will be from protein of animal origin to protein of vegetable origin, he said.

FSA Co-op
Cattle Ranch

Acquisition of 80,000 acres of cutover lands north of Lake Okeechobee, Florida, for the establishment of a cooperative cattle ranch as an experimental venture, was announced recently by E. S. Morgan, regional director of Farm Security, says an AP report in Arkansas Gazette, July 20. Representing an investment of \$794,250 advanced to small farmers and stock growers crowded out by the development of large ranges during the past few years, the tract will provide home sites and subsistence farming for 125 families. Cattle growing will be the main business.

Yearbook Review

Science and Society (Summer) contains a three-page review of Farmers in a Changing World, the 1940 Yearbook. The reviewer, Anna Rochester, says the book "is especially valuable for students of economic problems."

Medical Care
In Rural Areas

The Department Library has received the first three issues of a new quarterly, Medical Care. The Spring and Summer issues contain comment on rural medical care, including an article on this subject in Saskatchewan and an editorial on a report of the Maryland Committee on Medical Care.

In an article in Dynamic America, August, T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, says rural areas need more hospitals, clinics, and laboratories. They need more nurses and often more doctors. They need extension of health insurance and group practice to render physicians financially secure. The present pattern of medical organization has neglected farmers, he says.

Defense
Housing
Project

Mass construction methods, including prefabrication of building frameworks and the use of a 160,000-foot per day mill set up on the job site, are being used to speed up building operations in a large defense housing project on the outskirts of San Diego, California, under the Federal Public Buildings Administration, says a report in American Lumberman, July 26. The project will provide 1,767 houses, including 1,076 single-family, 503 double-family, 104 four-family and 84 six-family dwelling units.

Red Scale
Parasite

A red scale parasite (*Comperiella bifasciata*) has recently been successfully brought by airplane from China to California, say Compere, Flanders, and Smith, of the Riverside Citrus Experiment Station, in California Citrograph, August. The parasites are now being propagated in the insectary at Riverside. The next step is to determine the economic value of the parasite in the scale-infested orchards of California. Judging from past experience, they say, this will require from two to four years of colonization and observation.

U.S.-Cuban
Trade Pact
Extension

Formal notice of intention to negotiate a supplemental trade agreement with Cuba, bringing up to date the pact signed in 1934 and amended in 1939, has been issued by the State Department, says the Washington Star, July 27. Products on which the United States will consider granting tariff concessions to Cuba under the new pact include sugar, molasses, tobacco, cigars, grapefruit, beef, veal, and marble chip or granite. Public hearings will open September 8.
